

# Pine Knot

## News

Vol. 4 No. 45

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Friday, November 5, 2021

\$1.25

### INSIDE

This week in Carlton County's only independent, locally owned newspaper.



Halloween is a wrap **Page 3**



Runners hit state meet **Page 4, 25**



Candy drop is a success **Page 22**

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## VETERANS DAY 2021

"The highest obligation and privilege of citizenship is that of bearing arms for one's country."  
*Gen. George S. Patton*

Find dozens of profiles on area veterans inside today's Pine Knot News

## Former car dealership has a tangled past

Court records show web of financial woes

Jana Peterson  
news@pineknotnews.com

News that the Cloquet Police Department is investigating the former Cloquet Ford Chrysler Center after receiving more than a dozen complaints didn't surprise people watching the former business's Facebook page, which was littered with complaints.

As outlined by police chief Derek Randall and Facebook followers, the issues range from people going to get tabs and then finding out they don't legally own the vehicle, because the title was never transferred, or people trading in a vehicle and the loan not being paid off, leaving them paying on a loan for a new car and the old car they don't own anymore.

The problems are easy enough to describe, but what happened to cause those problems is still unclear. Randall said it's uncommon for his department to get involved with financial issues, so they are investigating and working with the state. They're still in the investigation phase, he stressed, adding that he doesn't know if it's a criminal investigation yet. They would like to talk to anyone who's had issues, so they can collect as much information as possible.

He stressed that they've had no complaints about the new business at the former Cloquet Ford Chrysler site at 701 Washington Ave. in Cloquet.

The new business, Wood City Motors, is owned by the Duluth-based car dealership group Evergreen, which owns dealerships in the Twin Ports and across the state and region including Kia of Duluth, Kia of Mankato, Kia of St. Cloud,



Iron Trail Motors on the Iron Range, NorthStar Ford and Volkswagen of Duluth, Sonju Two Harbors, and several dealerships in Wisconsin.

Cloquet Ford Chrysler, aka Cloquet Motors LLC, was originally started and owned by three people: husband and wife Alan and Renee Birman, and Mike Larson, who the Birmans described then as a silent partner in the business.

Last summer, a story in the Pine Knot News reported that the Birmans had "stepped back to a more silent role" while "previously silent partner" Mike Larson had taken on a more active role. At the time, Larson said he was trying to stabilize the course of the business.

Continued on Page 6



# Pine Knot News

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**STAFF**

**PETE RADOSEVICH**  
Publisher

Pete.Radosevich@PineKnotNews.com

**JANA PETERSON**  
Editor

Jana.Peterson@PineKnotNews.com

**IVAN HOHNSTADT**  
Advertising manager

Ads@PineKnotNews.com

**ROSE CHU**  
Business manager

Rose.Chu@PineKnotNews.com

**MIKE CREGER**  
Reporter, page design

EMAIL NEWS TIPS TO  
news@PineKnotNews.com

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**ABOUT US**

The Pine Knot News is the most comprehensive news chronicler in Carlton County and the only one that is locally owned and operated. Begun in 2018, our name is an homage to the area's first newspaper, The Pine Knot, which first printed in Cloquet in 1884 using paper from a local mill. The Pine Knot News is a proud member of the Minnesota Newspaper Association. We are its 2021 weekly newspaper of the year after earning 33 awards for newspaper excellence. The Pine Knot News is certified to print legal notices and is the official newspaper for most public bodies in Carlton County.

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If you find an item in the Pine Knot News that requires a correction or clarification, contact us immediately. We strive for accuracy and appreciate readers keeping the record straight. Call: 218-878-9332 Email: news@PineKnotNews.com.

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**WEATHER**

| TODAY            | SATURDAY         | SUNDAY           | EXTENDED  |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|---|
|                  |                  |                  |   |
| HIGH 50   LOW 29 | HIGH 53   LOW 35 | HIGH 51   LOW 35 | <b>MONDAY:</b> Partly sunny. High 50. Low 34.             |
| Mostly sunny.    | Mostly sunny.    | Partly sunny.    | Forecast courtesy meteorologist Dave Anderson, CBS News 3 |

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**CORRECTIONS**

A page in last week's Pine Knot honoring the Cloquet girls soccer team should have included Jillian McCullough as one of the seniors on the team

If you find an item in the

Pine Knot News that requires a correction or clarification, contact us immediately. We strive for accuracy and appreciate readers keeping the record straight. Call: 218-878-9332. Email: news@PineKnotNews.com.

**SENIOR DINING**

Arrowhead Senior Nutrition menu:  
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**Monday, Nov. 8** Special of the Day with dessert  
**Tuesday, Nov. 9** Spaghetti, tossed salad, fresh fruit  
**Wednesday, Nov. 10** Pork loin roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, pumpkin bar  
**Thursday, Nov. 11** Baked fish, pea and cheese salad, fruited Jello with topping  
**Friday, Nov. 12** Green pepper soup with grilled cheese sandwich,

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## THIS IS HALLOWEEN

Halloween came to Carlton in a big way Sunday afternoon, with more than a thousand costumed children and adults heading downtown for the now annual trick-or-treat event.

Business owners dressed up as well, but were mostly too busy to visit as they gave away bags and bags of candy to the crowds that thronged the sidewalks for a solid two hours.

Carlton Area Chamber of Commerce president Shanna Wolf estimated close to 1,300 revelers came through, in costumes that varied from massive blowup dinosaur suits to the more standard superheroes, zombies and tiny hockey players.

Sisters Hannah and Parker Schmidt modeled fabulous costumes — 2-year-old Hannah as Little Red Riding Hood and 4-year-old Parker as Tinkerbell — crocheted by their mother, Beth, for the walk down Chestnut Avenue. Two-year-old Cameron Udenburg cruised the streets in style: his stroller transformed into a yellow cardboard

Bobcat.

Grownups enjoyed their day of dressing up too. The entire McLain family came in costume as the Incredibles, Jenny Johnson came dressed as a package of Oscar Mayer wieners, pushing her dogs in a stroller of sorts, the pair of them dressed as ketchup and mustard. Cloquet's Jack McColley was a giant lumberjack, in flannel and carrying an ax, making the trek with Duluth's Curt Peterson (also in flannel) along with their spouses and young children.

It was a fun day in Carlton and across the county. A drive or walk down any street at dusk revealed moments that would be extraordinary on any other day: parent and child marshmallow characters walking hand in hand down the sidewalk, a teen dressed as Moses, another encased in black Spandex.

Mother Nature sputtered on Sunday afternoon — throwing rain, wind and snow for less than 20 minutes — but there would be no repeat of the 1991 Halloween blizzard on its 30th anniversary.

Text by **Jana Peterson**

Photos by **Dave Harwig** and **Jana Peterson**

PINE KNOT NEWS



A parent and child took to the streets of Cloquet on Halloween dressed as the Stay-Puft Marshmallow Man from the film "Ghostbusters."



The McLain family came to downtown Carlton in costume as the Parr family from the film "The Incredibles."



An estimated 1,300 trick-or-treaters, and their enablers, took to downtown Carlton on Sunday.



Two-year-old Cameron Udenburg had it easy as a Bobcat in Carlton.



Hot Dog! What a costume and props, Jenny Johnson.

# Congratulations, runners! Good luck at State!

## SECTION CHAMPIONS



North Woods freshman Addison Burckhardt raced to first place in the girls 7A race for South Ridge.



Cromwell-Wright junior Noah Foster cruised to first place in the Section 7A meet Thursday.

## Local cross country runners had a spectacular day Thursday at the section championship meets held at the Cloquet Country Club.

Cromwell-Wright running star junior Noah Foster took first place in the boys Section 7A meet, while Addison Burckhardt, a North Woods freshman who competes for South Ridge, won the girls 7A race.

A grand total of three Carlton County teams — the Cloquet and Esko boys, Carlton/Wrenshall girls — plus the nearby South Ridge girls team qualified for State by placing first or second at their respective meets.

On top of that, another eight runners in the Pine Knot News coverage area qualified individually. In Section 7A, that included Cromwell-Wright's Noah Foster and Emaleigh Olesiak, Esko's Grace Hrabik, Wrenshall's Jack Riley, the Rebels' Joseph Mikrot, and Shawn Bailey and Alex Burckhardt for South Ridge.

In Section 7AA, Cloquet's Elise Sertich is headed to State. The state meet is set for Saturday, Nov. 6 at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota.



### CLOQUET BOYS

The entire Cloquet boys varsity team will race at State after placing second in Section 7AA as a team. Team members from left are Ian Berube (alternate), Ben Sanders, Alex Zegan, Cale Prosen, Sam Buytaert, Miles Fischer, Jake Mertz, Calvin Snesrud and Gage Allen (alternate).



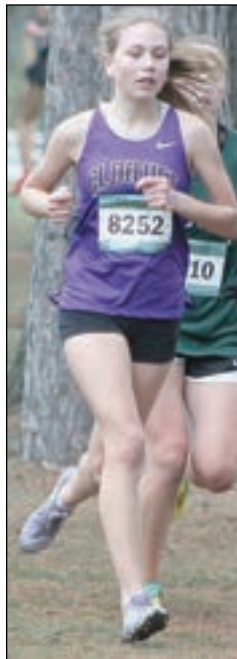
### ESKO BOYS

The entire Esko boys team will race at State after placing second in Section 7A as a team. Pictured, in the back row, from left, are Ethan Gamache, Zach Erkkila, Jack McWilliams, Michael Cornell, Ben Meysembourg and Attlei Sheldon. Front row, from left, are Nate Rengo, Alec Halvorson and Chad Hart.

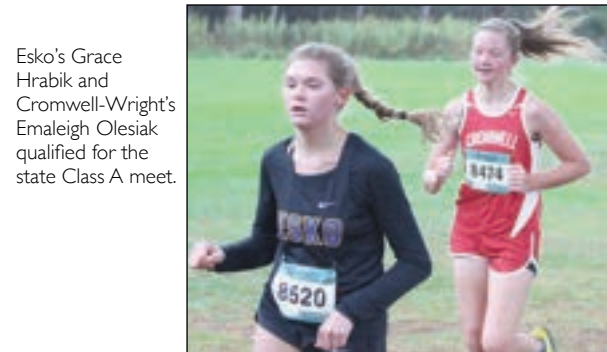


### RAPTOR GIRLS

The entire Carlton/Wrenshall girls team will race at State after placing first in Section 7A as a team. Pictured, from left, are Coach Brenda Knudsen, Sara Cid, Abby Cid, Korah Crane, Morgan Laveau, Emma Cid, Isabel Riley, Ruth Sandstrom, Brielle Simula and Coach Erik Holter.



Cloquet's Elise Sertich was the sole Lumberjacks girl to qualify for the state Class AA meet.



Esko's Grace Hrabik and Cromwell-Wright's Emaleigh Olesiak qualified for the state Class A meet.



### PANTHER GIRLS

The entire South Ridge girls team will race at State after placing second in Section 7A as a team. Team members include, in alphabetical order, Tatum Barto, Evelyn Brodee, Addison Burckhardt, Madison Ellefson, Arriana Ridge, Jillian Sajdak, Brook Smith, and two alternates.



Pictured on the podium are all of the boys 7A individual state qualifiers. Back row, from left: Cromwell's Noah Foster (first place), GNK's Connor Thoennes (third), Esko's Nathaniel Rengo (fifth) and the Rebels' Joseph Mikrot (eighth) and Shawn Bailey (ninth). Pictured in the front row, from left, are: MIB's Jeffrey Kayfes (second), GNK's Daniel Olson (fourth), Wrenshall's Jack Riley (sixth) and the Panthers' Alex Burckhardt (10th).

**Congratulations, Cross Country Runners! Good Luck at State!**

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**GOOD LUCK AT STATE!**

## CITY OF CLOQUET



Adam Kiminski of Kiminski Paving addressed Cloquet City council members Tuesday in an effort to help them understand how project labor agreements work for people who are employed by union and non-union shops, versus prevailing wage. Kiminski said he came to the meeting after joining a county PLA committee and learning how many officials don't understand the complicated agreements. *Jana Peterson / Pine Knot News*

# Labor agreement changes nixed

Jana Peterson  
news@pineknotnews.com

After six months of talking about the city's project labor agreement, the Cloquet City Council voted Tuesday to change absolutely nothing.

The decision was not unanimous by any means. The council voted on two resolutions related to the PLA: the first, a motion to increase the city funding level that triggers the PLA from \$175,000 to \$250,000, which failed to get the required supermajority of five when councilors Bun Carlson and Lyz Jaakola voted no. The second failed motion was to add language to the PLA agreement which would require non-union contractors to pay prevailing wage to employees rather than abiding by the PLA.

Generally, under the terms of a PLA, construction unions have bargaining rights to determine the wage rates and benefits of all employees working on a project. The terms of the agreement apply to all contractors and subcontractors working on the project, although they do not have to be union companies themselves. Benefit pay goes to the union, and if the employee is not a union member, he or she may never qualify for those benefit funds, which are retained by the union in that case. PLAs also typically require that employees hired for the project are referred through union hiring halls — in this case, the Duluth Building and Construction Trades Council.

Although the PLA remains unchanged, this time the council did due diligence before voting, unlike most past PLA actions. Tuesday's vote came after extensive discussion over six months, since the council overturned the

PLA by a 4-3 vote in May and then overturned that decision at the very next meeting by the same vote, after Ward 2 councilor Sheila Lamb asked for a new vote and changed her vote to one in support of the PLA.

Tuesday's vote for adding the prevailing wage requirement to the city's PLA actually tied, with councilors Lamb, Lyz Jaakola and Chris Swanson voting against the proposed change, and councilors Kerry Kolodge and Bun Carlson, along with mayor Roger Maki, voting in favor of the change. At-large councilor Lara Wilkinson was absent, and the tie vote meant the motion failed.

While the majority of input over the past six months has come from union leaders and members who have attended council meetings regularly and pushed to be heard, this week's meeting had an unexpected guest.

Local businessman Adam Kiminski addressed the council during the public comment portion at the start of the meeting, whiteboard in hand, saying he wanted to explain how the PLA works as someone whose business was previously not union, but which changed to all-union about five years ago. He didn't have a dog in this fight, but realized a lot of elected officials — including past councilors — don't truly understand how PLAs impact a non-union contractor or employee, he said.

"It's important to me to at least say I wouldn't be here now if every job I did for the government required a PLA," he said. "In favor or not in favor, I just don't think that non-union guys have a fair chance at some of those issues," he added.

The city can correct unfair bid advantages by non-union contractors by requiring prevailing wage,

he said. If prevailing wage is \$30, then both union and non-union workers get the same wage: union employees' benefit pay goes to the union and non-union employees get the additional hourly rate (which he estimated at \$20), which would go toward benefits, directly in their paychecks.

Regarding claims of PLAs preventing work stoppages or resulting in better work, Kiminski said with equal pay there are rarely stoppages and suggested payment performance bonds and inspections ensure quality of work.

"I owned a non-union company for 15 years before we became union and we have the same standard of work and quality then as we do now," he said.

"I'm a proud union contractor and part of what makes me proud is we made that decision without being forced to."

Later in the meeting, during the actual PLA discussion by the council, mayor Roger Maki did not allow any union officials or other audience members to speak, which frustrated Dan Olson, secretary of the Duluth Building and Construction Trades Council, who said he might challenge the city's "Robert's Rules of Order" because he was not allowed to speak or sign up to speak on Tuesday.

"You've had the opportunity to speak many times," Maki said.

Lamb asked city administrator Tim Peterson to explain why the city wouldn't just stick with the recently discovered action by a long-ago council to require prevailing wage instead of introducing it into the PLA. Peterson, who has advocated for the council to eliminate the PLA, said he would be happy to have the city follow the previous prevailing wage vote, but said the PLA "would be breaking our own

resolution and ordinance as well."

"I would say that the project labor agreement has since taken over for that," he said. This would make it so we handle union and non-union contractors as they are. They're different; they're separate."

Councilor Jaakola asked mayor Maki if it was the city's legal opinion that the PLA takes the place of the prior ordinance, "or is that Tim Peterson's opinion?"

Councilor Kolodge said the issue of the prevailing wage was not raised when the first PLA vote was taken in 2017. Peterson said the two documents could not coexist.

Jaakola said she would vote to support the PLA as it was already written and have a separate discussion on prevailing wage.

Kolodge voted to add prevailing wage, he said, because he thought the city's PLA helps some workers but it doesn't help all the workers in the city. "I was elected by all the workers in my ward," he said. "I'm not here to take any benefits away from the union workers. But I'm here to even the playing field and to get benefits for everybody."

When the vote tied, Maki attempted to break the tie with a second vote, but that was not allowed because he's already voted, thus the motion just died.

Earlier this year, the council — with Duluth Building Trades' blessing — removed requirements that employees join the union this spring, after a lawsuit was filed targeting the cities of Cloquet, Two Harbors and Duluth for their PLAs. The lawsuit has not been resolved yet.

In other matters, Phase 1 of the 14th Street project has been completed and the street is open to traffic again. The city also welcomed new finance director, Katie Bloom, to the meeting Tuesday.

## KNOT NOTES

### No charges for chicken release

According to Carlton County Sheriff Kelly Lake, there will be no charges against the business owners who released 200-300 "spent" chickens into the woods near their farm in Twin Lakes Township because they were no longer laying enough eggs.

A deputy talked to Promised Land Farm owners Rob and Lori Gamble. By that time the chickens had all been rounded up by volunteers, including Kyleen Pedersen, the person who reached out on social media to various local chicken groups.

"We use our discretion sometimes. The chickens were safe and gone," Lake said. "After speaking with the owners, the deputy was confident this wouldn't happen again."

Lake added that the public scrutiny from Facebook and the Oct. 15 Pine Knot News story "was far more egregious" than anything the business owners would see through the criminal justice system.

The Gambles said they will post information on taking hens they no longer want to keep on the farm's Facebook page and at the website, www.promisedlandfarmmn.com. Those who would like to be on a list to be contacted when hens are available should email promisedlandfarmmn@gmail.com.

### Change clocks this weekend

Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 7, when the clock will "fall back" one hour and in theory we all get one extra hour of sleep. Days will continue to get shorter until Dec. 21 when the winter solstice arrives. Then the length of days will begin to increase until the summer solstice on June 21, 2022. Remember to change your smoke alarm batteries as well.

### Winter parking began Monday

Winter parking in the area is in effect now through March, so don't leave your cars parked on the streets overnight.

From Nov. 1 through March 31, cars cannot be parked overnight on streets or in alleys. In Esko, parking on the street is prohibited between 4 a.m. and 7 a.m., and in Carlton, from 3 a.m. to 6 a.m. Cloquet doesn't allow parking on the street between midnight and 6 a.m.

# KNOT NOTES

## Digital wellness, kids and sleep

Cloquet Public Library will host another parent workshop, “Digital wellness for teens and tweens: What does sleep have to do with it?” Professor Ryan Hjelle of UMD will tackle this subject at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 9 in the large meeting room at the library. All Carlton County schools are welcome to this free event, including caregivers, teachers and youth workers as well as teens. Daycare and a light meal will be provided.

## Band requests roads feedback

The Fond du Lac Planning Department invites the public to provide input about roads and trails on the Fond du Lac Reservation through a public survey. The survey can be accessed by visiting [www.ardcplanning.org/fonddulac](http://www.ardcplanning.org/fonddulac) and will be open until Nov. 30. This survey is part of a larger project to update the transportation plan for the Fond du Lac Reservation to access funding for maintaining and constructing roads and trails on the Reservation. ARDC Planning will hold a virtual public open house to provide further public input opportunities on Monday, Nov. 15. Visit [www.ardcplanning.org/fonddulac](http://www.ardcplanning.org/fonddulac) for more, or direct questions to ARDC’s Russell Habermann at 218-529-7552 or [rhhabermann@ardc.org](mailto:rhhabermann@ardc.org).

## Throw your card into the contest

Arrowhead Library System (ALS) is holding an art contest for a new library card! Adults ages 18 and older who live in Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, and St. Louis counties may enter until Nov. 24. The winner will be selected by ALS staff and notified by December 5, 2021. To participate, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/2021ALSlibCard-DesignContest>. Completed forms may be turned into any ALS member public library or sent via mail to Arrowhead Library System, Attn. M. Stanford, 5528 Emerald Ave., Mountain Iron MN 55768. Only one submission per person

# THEY’RE NOT BOOING — THEY’RE MOOING



Barnum fans dance in a costumed conga line, with an abundance of cows, during Friday’s volleyball playoff game between Barnum and Cromwell-Wright. For more that game, see Page 27. Dan Saletel / Pine Knot News

## Dealership ...

*Continued from Page 1*

The Birmans — who had been very involved community members at one time — sold their home at 1 Park Place in Cloquet for \$527,000 in November 2020 and told friends they were moving to Texas with their young son.

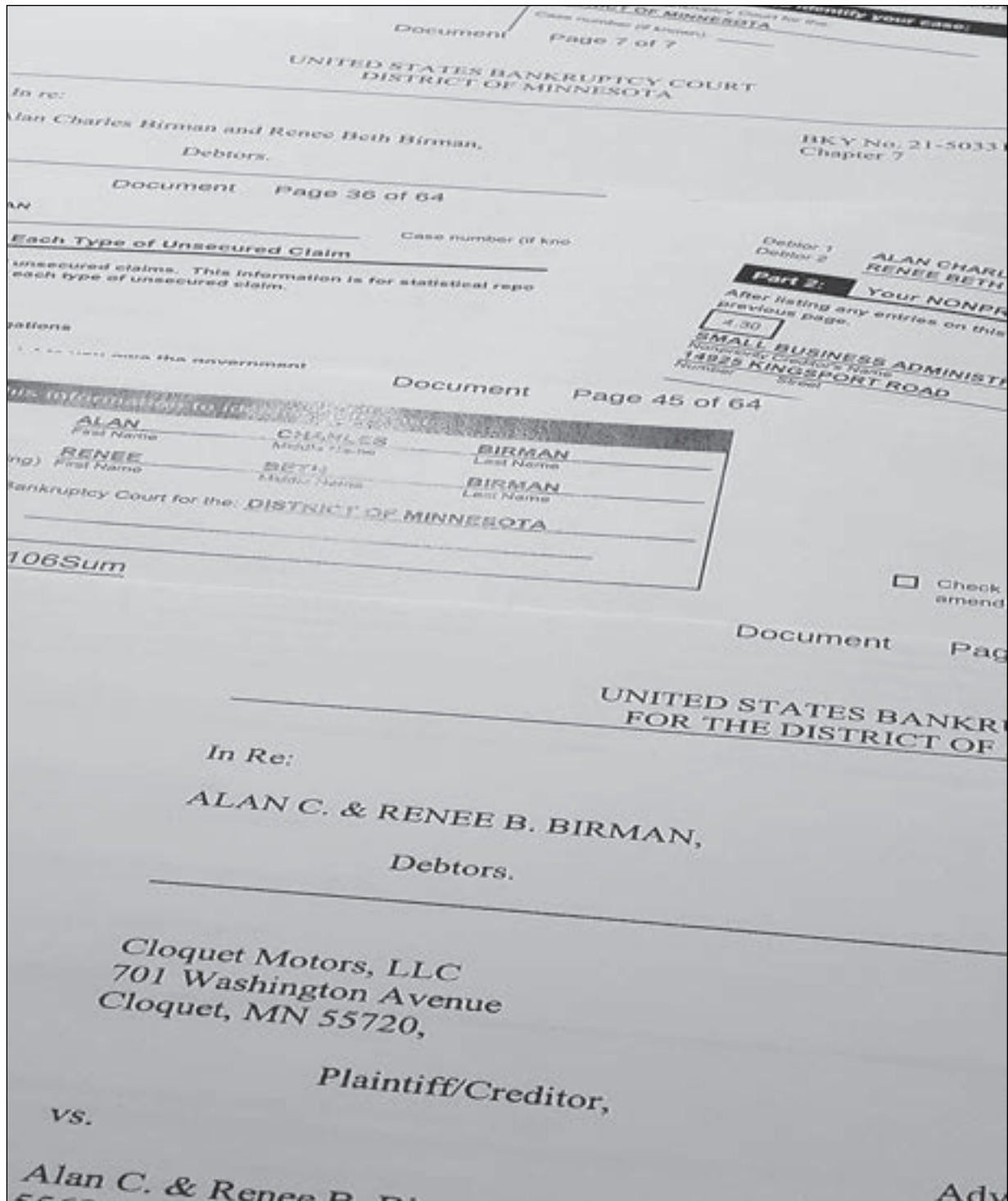
Then a bankruptcy filing on July 9 of this year — reported in the Pine Knot News on July 30 — showed the Birmans with an address on Howard Gnesen Road in Duluth.

The Chapter 7 filing claims the Birmans have assets of \$47,445 and unsecured debts in the amount of \$3,648,019 plus \$60,000 in unpaid taxes.

According to the bankruptcy filing, the vast majority of the Birman’s debts are business loans: \$1.2 million owed to Westlake Financial in Los Angeles, California, \$740,000 to AFC in Osseo, Minnesota, \$500,000 to the Small Business Administration, \$393,078 to American Guardian Funding, \$90,000 to Ford Credit in Colorado as well as Chrysler in Michigan and more. Many of the creditors are in the business of providing loans, some of them specifically for car dealerships, or a revolving line of credit. More local business debts include \$267,395 to North Shore Federal Credit Union and \$200,000 to Frandsen Bank and Trust. A total of 33 creditors was listed on the original bankruptcy filing.

In late August, bankruptcy judge William Fischer ordered that the bankruptcy trustee could examine two years of the Birman’s Woodlands National Bank account, which the trustee requested “in connection with the large transfers from the debtors’ business checking account to the debtors’ personal account,” according to court documents.

On Oct. 5, attorneys for Cloquet Motors LLC and Mike Larson filed an adversary complaint alleging that the Birmans had wrongly stated they owed nothing to Cloquet Motors.



“The debt owed to CMLCC is unknown and is based on an illegal diversion of company funds for the personal benefit of the debtors,” the complaint alleges.

Neither the Birmans nor Larson returned phone calls from the Pine Knot News.

The bankruptcy case is ongoing. The most recent action was the fraud complaint filed by Cloquet Motors LLC.

The former owners of Cloquet Ford Chrysler — Alan and Reneé Birman — owe more than \$3.6 million, according to numerous bankruptcy court filings and claims.



**Above:** Barnum middle school students learned how to navigate. **Below:** High school upperclassmen worked on water-quality issues related to the Boundary Waters and their own school. *Photos courtesy of Alison Nyenhuis*

# Students prepare for life in the wild

## Pine Knot News

More than 50 students at Barnum High School got a chance to learn about water quality and how to find one's way with a map and compass through a program that brought a bit of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness to their school last month.

They were visited by Alison Nyenhuis, education director for Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness, a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting northeastern Minnesota's BWCAW and educating students about the area through its "No Boundaries to the Boundary Waters" school visits program.

Seventh- and eighth-grade students participated in the "Topography and Trails: Map and Compass in the BWCA" class, and high school juniors and seniors participated in the "Clear, Deep Water: Water Quality and the BWCA" course.

Prior to the visit, both classes had a virtual visit the week before with Nyenhuis. Students learned more about the Boundary Waters

and followed a "day in the life" of a BWCA traveler using the online introduction unit to get them ready for the in-person visit.

The students worked together to use a compass and navigate a course that had been set up in their schoolyard, and discussed the reasons why navigation is so important in wilderness areas, and particularly the BWCA.

Students in grades 11 and 12 explored the water quality of two sites at their school, and investigated how factors near the water affect different indicators of water quality, and how these factors play into water-rich environments such as the BWCA.

"It was a great day at Barnum High School. The students came with a lot of excitement and curiosity for the activities. I loved seeing the middle school students explore their schoolyard in a new way, and I was so impressed with the connections the high school students were making with water quality and how the nearby land affects it. They started to come up with some great solutions to protect their water," Nyenhuis said.



The No Boundaries to the Boundary Waters program works with schools across the state to deliver a Boundary Waters curriculum to students at no cost to schools. In addition, the No Boundaries program provides scholarship opportunities for students from diverse and underserved communities to go on weeklong Boundary Waters

adventures.

Nyenhuis also teaches units on animal skull identification, Leave No Trace principles and more, as students get to experience hands-on elements of the Boundary Waters. In addition, she works with a network of experts to provide virtual presentations on climate change in the BWCA, fire ecology, BWCA history, and more.

Funding for the No Boundaries to the Boundary Waters program was provided by the Minnesota Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources. For more information, visit [www.friends-bwca.org/outdoor-education](http://www.friends-bwca.org/outdoor-education).

## DEER HUNTING OPENER

# Make a safe plan before heading out to the fields

## Pine Knot News

As 400,000 hunters prepare for deer hunting this firearms opening weekend, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is telling them to plan ahead for the 2021 hunting season.

"A safe and enjoyable hunt starts with good preparation. To assist hunters with that preparation, we've put a wealth of general and area-specific information on our website," said DNR Commissioner Sarah Strommen. "We hope these tools contribute to a safe and successful deer season with family and friends."

A successful hunt requires planning no matter which deer permit area hunters are in. All

you need is your DPA number to use our online make a plan tool, which provides a comprehensive list of information hunters need to consider before heading to deer camp.

### Buy a license

It starts with deciding which deer permit area you will be hunting so you can buy the appropriate license.

### Control CWD

Get your deer tested if required. Invest in the health of Minnesota's wild deer by participating in chronic wasting disease check-ins. If you'll be hunting in a CWD surveillance, control or management zone, sampling is mandatory on this opening

weekend for all deer one year of age or older.

### Know the regs

Read up on the regulations for your deer permit area, including how to register deer and how harvested deer must be handled and transported in certain areas to help prevent the spread of disease.

### Process plan

Know where you will have your deer processed. If you plan to use a meat processor, contact them ahead of time to be sure they're accepting whole deer from hunters this year. If you plan to butcher your own deer, you must properly dispose of the carcass (head and spinal

column). We have videos to help you process your own deer and assist those hunting in a CWD control or management zone.

### Be safe

Practice the four tenets of firearms safety, know how to set up and use the tree stand safely, wear a safety harness and wear blaze clothing.

Minnesota has enjoyed two firearms deer seasons and nearly three years without a hunting-related firearms death — that's the longest stretch since the DNR has been tracking these tragedies. And when the firearms deer season opens Saturday, every hunter needs to prioritize safety to keep the trend going.

While the number of hunt-

ing-related firearms fatalities has dropped significantly since the 1960s and 1970s, when it wasn't unusual for 10 or more hunters to die each year, safety officials say even one incident is one too many. In the past 10 years, a total of 14 people have died in firearms-related hunting incidents.

Many of them happened during the firearms deer season. By following the basic rules of firearms safety, hunters can avoid most hunting-related firearms incidents:

- Treat every firearm as if it's loaded.
- Always control the muzzle.
- Be sure of the target and what's beyond it.
- Put finger on the trigger only

## OUR VIEW

### Love your Pedro's; but be street-smart

We need to remind people who are visiting Pedro's, the popular Mexican restaurant in downtown Cloquet, that the new location is adjacent to a dense residential neighborhood that isn't prepared to handle the influx of people parking in their streets and driveways.

The old location, just a few blocks away, had no off-street parking, but it was surrounded by other downtown businesses — not homes — on streets that were designed to handle commercial parking. The new location, in the old Eagles Club building, has a small parking lot but is adjacent to a one-way residential street that's usually full of residents' cars. Not only that, but the street (Eighth Street) is narrow and on a steep hill. And did we mention it's a one-way street headed downtown? All these factors, plus the popularity of the restaurant and the novelty of its new building (which is spectacular, we may add) adds up to disruptive parking practices in the area.

Customers of the restaurant have been squeezing into tight spaces usually used by residents. They have also been travelling "up" Eighth Street, which is a one-way in the opposite direction. We agree that the one-way is somewhat poorly marked, but we also hear reports of cars headed up Eighth "just a half block" to grab that one spot that may be left on the street, according to some residents in the area. Finally, cars circling the residential streets looking for parking are sharing the narrow road with pedestrians walking down the street toward the restaurant.

We urge Pedro's patrons to be considerate. Respect the one-way, and make sure you are not blocking people's driveways or making it dangerous for people walking in the streets. Don't sneak into the Moose Lodge parking lot either; that's rude.

We suggest people park across Cloquet Avenue in the city lot by U.S. Bank, rather than adding to the congestion on the residential streets. Pedestrians, please use the sidewalks rather than the street. Neighbors, please make sure the sidewalks are clear, and shoveled once snow arrives.

We also ask the city to consider painting crosswalks on Cloquet Avenue to make it safer for people to park across the street, and maybe post a pedestrian crossing sign there too. Additional one-way signage on Eighth Street would also be helpful.

The new Pedro's restaurant is a gem in downtown Cloquet, and we wish them success. If we can address the parking issues now, we believe the new restaurant and its neighbors will have a long, smooth relationship that benefits all of us.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Chicken release was a case of abuse

In the Oct. 15 Pine Knot there was an article about the criminal abuse of animals. Turning loose hundreds of chickens after they outlived their usefulness. They were starving, thirsty, eating each other. Why wouldn't they? They don't know how to fend for themselves. What was done in the past with their chickens?

Law enforcement should take a good look at this animal

abuse.

Tony Sheda,  
Wrenshall

**Editor's note:** The Pine Knot News was able to talk to Carlton County Sheriff Kelly Lake about the incident we reported on in the Oct. 15 issue. She said the case did not merit further investigation since it seemed the farm owners had learned their lesson after considerable backlash on social media and promises to find people to take their retired hens.



## Honoring veterans is a solemn duty for all of us

Treat Veterans Day, which is next Thursday, even more seriously than Memorial Day. That's because Memorial Day is a day for families to remember lost loved ones, but Veterans Day honors veterans directly, living or passed. To me, that makes next Thursday a pretty solemn day.

We owe a lot to veterans, many of whom served our country's armed forces in both peacetime and during conflicts. And while quite a few veterans have seen combat, many veterans haven't seen any "action," as they call it, but rather supported the troops that did in many different ways. It takes a village, so to speak, to maintain the armed forces, to defend our country and protect our interests. Those who worked in the motorpool, cooked the food, cleaned the barracks, and ordered the supplies should be honored along with those who carried weapons. Maybe those jobs weren't as dangerous, and it certainly takes a brave soldier to put themselves in harm's way for our country, but sometimes we forget the sacrifice of the support troops, too.

I never served, which I regret. Back in 1982, when I graduated from high school, recruiters tried to persuade me to join their organizations, but as a young idealist pacifist, I didn't give service any real consideration. That was a mistake. As I grew up and saw how the world really works, I realized that serving our country is an important contribution to our society. I've even argued that mandatory service should be considered for our young people,

whether it's in the armed forces or in some other capacity. That idea needs a lot of scrutiny, and there would be many details to work out, but I like the idea.

But on Veterans Day, we honor those who have served in the Armed Forces.

Some people remember those veterans all the time. Recently, I attended the Trailblazers luncheon at the VFW in West End Cloquet. The VFW, like many chapters, operates a club, which is essentially a bar where members can socialize, and a gathering room, where the lunch was held and where the VFW holds many of its events, such as the famous \$5 burger night or the Marine Corps Ball.

It's in that room where the VFW has set up a memorial table to veterans who have served but never came home. It's called the Missing Man Table and can be seen in many veterans gathering places. There's a poem, too, which is inspiring. I don't know who wrote it, but here is my favorite version, which describes the table set for those who won't be returning better than I could ever explain:

"Each item on the Missing Man Table represents the emotions and feelings reserved for those who did not come home. The ceremony symbolizes that they are with us, here in spirit. All Americans should never forget the brave men and women who answered our nation's call to serve and fought for our freedom with honor.

"This is the symbolism of the Missing Man Table: The table is

round, to show our unending concern for our missing comrades.

"The cloth is white, to symbolize the purity of their motives when answering the call to serve.

"The single red rose, displayed in a vase, reminds us of the loves of these patriots and their friends and loved ones who keep the faith while seeking answers.

"The red ribbon symbolizes our continued determination to account for those still missing.

"A slice of lemon reminds us of their bitter fate; captured and missing in a foreign land.

"A pinch of salt represents the tears of our missing comrades and their families, who long for answers even after decades of uncertainty.

"The candle reflects our hope for their return, even if they are no longer living.

"The Good Book reflects the strength gained through faith to sustain us and those lost from our country, founded as one nation under God.

"The glass is inverted, emphasizing the fallen's inability to share a toast with those for whom they fought.

"And the chair is empty, unclaimed but reserved to welcome them, should they return."

Anyone is welcome to come see the table at the VFW. I suggest you go take a look. It's a moving experience.

*Pete Radosevich is the publisher of the Pine Knot News and an attorney in Esko who hosts the cable access talk show Harry's Gang on CAT-7. His opinions are his own. Contact him at Pete.Radosevich@PineKnotNews.com.*

### HARRY'S GANG



Pete Radosevich





## OBITUARIES

### Alice Jahnke Legueri

Alice Jahnke Legueri, 90, of Cloquet passed away Friday, Oct. 29, 2021. She was born July 13, 1931, to Gustav and Emma (Jantzen) Jahnke in Parkers Prairie, Minnesota. Alice was married to George Legueri in Bagley on Aug. 27, 1959. She was baptized and confirmed at Zion North Effington. During her youth, Alice enjoyed her life on the family farm, and she was incredibly involved in the workings there. To make the farm as productive as possible, during World War II she drove the tractor.



Alice attended Parkers Prairie High School and, after graduating, attended St. Cloud Teachers College to earn a teaching degree. She taught in the Glenwood, Bemidji, Carlton, and Cromwell school districts. She retired in 1989.

After retiring, she and her husband lived in a very nice house in Cloquet. While there, Alice became an active member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. She joined the church's women's organiza-

tions and worked hard to do her best for the church. Alice enjoyed walking with her friends inside and outside. She remained in remarkable physical condition because of this exercise. Alice was also an avid reader; known for having read every book in the library of her country school.

Alice was preceded in death by her parents and her siblings Dolores (Verner) Johnson and Darold (Norma) Jahnke. She was survived by her husband, George, who died five days later; her brothers Ralph (Etta) Jahnke and Harland (Katie) Jahnke; 14 nieces and nephews; and extended family. Both George and Alice deeply appreciated the help from church friends and neighbors during their time of need.

**Visitation:** 9:30 a.m. until the 10:30 a.m. funeral service Friday, Nov. 5 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Cloquet. Interment will be in Zion North Effington Cemetery in Parkers Prairie.

### Richard A. Alaspa

Richard A. Alaspa, 50, of South Range, Wisconsin, died Oct. 26, 2021, at his residence.

Richard was born on Nov. 17, 1970, in Cloquet, the son of Walter and Arlene (Holmberg) Alaspa. He married Brenda Billings on June 19, 2006.



Rick had worked for Laborers' Local Union No. 1091. He enjoyed spending time outdoors, in the woods, and on the shore of Lake Superior. Rick also enjoyed building cabins on his property, and he was always tinkering. He loved to play horseshoes with his father-in-law, Don. He also loved his animals, especially his companion and dog Max.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Arlene; father and stepmother, Walter

and Lori Alaspa; and brother, Dallas Alaspa.

Rick is survived by his wife, Brenda; children, Elizabeth, Brandon and Amy; siblings, Curt Alaspa, Wendy (Craig) Risdall, and Chad (Stacy) Alaspa; father-in-law, Don Billings; sisters-in-law, Lisa (Chris) Strom and Barb (Ray) Cameron; and many nieces and nephews.

**Visitation:** 11 a.m. until the 12 p.m. funeral service Saturday, Nov. 13 at Vineyard Church Eastside, 3833 E. Superior St., Duluth MN 55804.

Downs Funeral Home, 1617 N. 19th St., Superior, is assisting the family with arrangements. To leave an online condolence, please visit [www.downsfh.com](http://www.downsfh.com).

### Donald Andrew Kinnunen

Donald Andrew Kinnunen, 91, of Esko passed away Oct. 26, 2021, in St. Luke's Hospital in Duluth. He was born Feb. 9, 1930 in Thomson Township, the only child of Andrew and Hilda Kinnunen. He grew up in Esko.



Donald was a Finnish horse farmer, with strong friends and a legacy of stewardship. He was generous with his help, knowledge and opinions. Anyone who knocked on his door got a good cup of coffee and conversation. He was well-read and curious. He often donated

his time and harvest to the hungry. Donald will be greatly missed.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Donald is survived by cousins and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held 12-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 13 in the fireside room in Atkins Northland Funeral Home, 801 14th St., Cloquet. There will be coffee and food.



### Therese "Tari" Ann Roe

Therese "Tari" Ann Roe, 68, of Cromwell passed away Oct. 30, 2021, in her home. She was born March 3, 1953 in Duluth to Warren "Bud" and Gladys Miller.



Tari retired from the United States Postal Service, where she was a postal carrier.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Tari is survived by her children, Cory (Tammy) Roe of Wrenshall and Kristie (Don) Lathrop of Sturgeon Lake; former husband, Michael Roe of Cromwell; five grandchildren, Alec, Devon, Darren,

Logan and Ethan; brothers, John (Patty) Miller of Duluth, Richard (Anita) Miller of Duluth, and Jim (Barb) Miller of Cotton; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

A visitation and memorial service was scheduled for 1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 4 at Atkins Northland Funeral Home in Cloquet. To sign the guestbook and leave an online tribute see [www.atkinsnorthlandfuneralhome.com](http://www.atkinsnorthlandfuneralhome.com).



### George Joseph Legueri

George Joseph Legueri, 91, passed away due to a stroke Nov. 3, 2021, at Essentia St. Mary's Medical Center in Duluth. He was born at home in Nashwauk on May 1, 1930, to Fred and Mary (Strafacie) Legueri. George attended the Nashwauk elementary school and graduated from Nashwauk High School in 1949, where he was an outstanding football player with fabulous leg speed — he was very hard to catch. Following high school, he enlisted in the Air Force and served for four years, much of it in Korea. George always said, "I was proud to serve my country."

After the military, he attended Bemidji State College, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in teaching. He went on to earn a master's degree, which gave him a license to teach and work as an administrator. George taught in the Cloquet school district and also coached football. Later, he was hired by the Carlton school district, where he served as the principal until his retirement.

On Aug. 27, 1959, George and Alice (Jahnke) were married and made a life in Cloquet, living in a beautiful home. Their goal was to "make guests comfortable." After retiring, they wintered in Green Valley, Arizona and spent time visiting relatives in Parkers Prairie and in northern Minne-

sota. Also during retirement, George took art classes in drawing and drew some fantastic pictures, giving them to family and friends as gifts. He was interested in fishing and was an avid golfer too. His motto to make a happy life was to "keep a positive attitude" and "keep a sense of humor."

George was preceded in death by his parents; his loving wife, Alice, who passed five days before him; his brothers, Angelo (Dorothy), Benny (Winnie), and Louis (Elaine); sisters, Josephine "Pina" (Harold) Pakkonen, Carmen (Rey) Lakso, and Elizabeth "Tootsie" (John) Sweeney. He is survived by 14 nieces and nephews, many great neighbors, and friends. George would like to convey a special thank-you to all his neighbors who helped him over the years with the lawn care and snow removal.

**Visitation:** 10 a.m. until the 11 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial Saturday, Nov. 6 at St. Francis Catholic Church in Carlton. Military honors will be presented by Nicholson-Sellgren VFW Post 2962 of Carlton. A lunch reception will follow in the church social hall. Burial will follow in the Nashwauk Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please send a memorial gift to the charity of your choice. Nelson Funeral Care assisted the family with the final arrangements.



### Stewart "Toby" Wayne Tobias

Stewart "Toby" Wayne Tobias, 94, of Bradenton, Florida, died Oct. 23, 2021. Toby was born May 5, 1927 in St. Paul, where he was raised. After high school, Toby served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, aboard the USS Rutilicus in Okinawa, Japan.

Toby also resided in Des Moines as well as Cloquet. While in Cloquet, he started the Cloquet Farm and Home Building Center. Toby was the first to bring the round hay baler to Minnesota. He also started Economy Garages in Duluth in 1980. Toby was always thinking of how things could be improved, which led to his being



granted patents for many inventions. His inventions were manufactured through his company, Noble Manufacturing in Florida. Toby also loved to travel and had a terrific sense of adventure. Toby had many stories to tell and loved to make people laugh.

Toby is survived by his five children, Faye (Randy) Groth, Craig (Alison) Tobias, Kim (Lionel) Lehman, T. Neal (Patti) Tobias and JoEllen Tobias; special friend, Arlene Stultz; seven grandchildren, Marion, Mark, Shane, Victor, Andrea, Jonathan and William; 13 great-grandchildren; and one sister, Marlene Keller.



### Ernest Henninger

Ernest Henninger, 89, lifelong resident of Barnum Township, died peacefully Oct. 29, 2021 in Sandstone Health Care Center. He was born April 29, 1932, in Barnum to Ralph and Nora Henninger. Ernie attended Central School and later began a 44-year career at Diamond Match in Cloquet. He met Marilyn Pfistner at the Carlton County fair, and they later married on July 26, 1952. Ernie loved to work on cars and tractors through the years and was well-known for his ability to fix anything. He worked hard through the years and was known to his family for having used up his nine lives while "trying to get something accomplished for the day." Ernie also liked to deer hunt. His biggest joy was sharing his fixing and hunting skills with his grandkids through the years. Ernie will be remembered as a good man with a strong-willed personality complemented by a fun, joking sense of humor.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ralph and Nora Henninger, and two brothers, James Henninger and Vernon Henninger.

Ernie will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 69 years, Marilyn; two daughters, Glenda (Mike) Svacina and Janice (John) Gitzen; three grandchildren, Michael (Jackie) Svacina Jr., Shawna (Dale) Olbekson and Lindsay (Jake) Calliguri; four great-grandchildren, Kaylee, Maverick, Monico and Ashley; six great-great-grandchildren, Justin, Lane, Lacey, Ellianna, Harper and Barrett; sister, Eleanor (Marvin) Rilea; three brothers, Ed (Alyce) Henninger, Don (Carol) Henninger and Gordy (Rosie) Henninger; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

A 2 p.m. gathering of family and friends and a memorial service was scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 4 at Barnum Community United Methodist Church. Pastor Kendall Carlson was to officiate. Inurnment will be in Riverside Cemetery, Barnum, followed by a luncheon and fellowship in the church social hall.

Arrangements by locally owned and operated Hamlin-Hansen-Kosloski Funeral Home, Moose Lake.



## OBITUARIES

### Zenon Jozef Bednarek

Zenon Jozef Bednarek, 84, of Cloquet passed away Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2021, in Es-sentia Health St. Mary's in Duluth. He was born Dec. 26, 1936, in Skowronów, Poland to Boleslaw and Zofia Bednarek. He was raised in Poland and later relocated to Germany, where he attended school, and then moved to the U.S. in 1951. Zenon married Emelia Greske on Nov. 24, 1962 in Cloquet.

Zenon worked at Erickson Dairy, Brenny-Dahl, Ray Riihiluoma Inc., Diamond Match and Potlatch. He retired from Potlatch and was a member of the Potlatch Quarter Century Club.

He liked fishing, dancing, polka music, telling stories, playing cards, and spending time at the VFW. He enjoyed spending time with his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Zenon was a father figure to all in his family.

Zenon was a strong-willed, humble man who did everything he could to provide for his family, from learning German and English, to interpreting for his family, to constantly working even when ill.



Zenon was preceded in death by a grandson, Jaycob Weme; sister, Maria Limmer; and brothers, William, Thomas and John Bednarek.

He is survived by his wife, Emelia, of Cloquet; daughters, Sharon (Denny Johnson) Moehrke, Susan (Mark) Hagen and Carol (Ron) Weme all of Cloquet; son, Clayton (Kaylynn) Lee of Olathe, Kansas; grandchildren Brandon Godbout, Bailey Homstad, Zachary (Thea Allen) Moehrke, Kaylee Hagen, Bryan Weme, Brady Weme, and Kenny (Kendall) Lee; great-grandchildren, Hudson and Odin Homstad, Leo and Reign Moehrke, Parker Grace and Owen Lee; and many in-laws.



**Visitation:** 1 p.m. until the 2 p.m. Rosary Wednesday, Nov. 10 in Atkins Northland Funeral Home Chapel, 801 14th St., Cloquet. Inurnment will be in the New Calvary Columbarium. Refreshments will follow in the Fireside Room of the funeral home. To see the guestbook and leave an online tribute, see [www.atkinsnorthlandfuneralhome.com](http://www.atkinsnorthlandfuneralhome.com).

### Jon Andrew Severson

Jon Andrew Severson, 49, of Esko went to be with Jesus on Nov. 1, 2021, in his home with his family by his side after a long battle with cancer.

He was born Dec. 3, 1971, to Arlen and Julianne (Berg) Severson in Indianapolis. Jon married Nicole Richardson on April 9, 2004, in Tucson, Arizona.

He was employed as a foreman with the Cloquet Terminal Railroad. Jon had a passion for railroad history, which took him to many different locations over the years. He wrote two books over the years, "Delivered With Pride: A Pictorial History of the Duluth Winnipeg & Pacific Railroad" and "From Glory to Ashes," Volumes I and II. Jon was an avid Minnesota Vikings fan and Esko basketball fan. He was a member of Bayside Baptist Church in Superior.

Jon was preceded in death by his grandparents, Olaf and Myrtle Berg and Raymond and Agnes Severson, and his aunt and uncle, Omar and Audrey Berg. He is survived by his wife, Nicole; his

sons, Anthony, Lincoln, and Evan Severson; his parents, Arlen and Julianne Severson; siblings, Katharine (Joel) Finifrock, Sara (Kraig) Skistad, and Erik (Katharine) Severson; his in-laws, John and Rosemarie Richardson; brother-in-law, Marcus (fiancé Nicole) Richardson; aunt and uncle, David and Zan Severson and Ihleen and Gary Williams; aunt and uncles-in-law, Paul and Mary Richardson and Dave and Rebecca Guthrie; cousins, Ethan and Eran (Natalie) Severson and SuZan (Travis) Powell, Rebekah (Matt) Tompkins and Chris (Shanone) Berg; and nieces and nephews, Leif, Aili and Ari Severson, Hannah and Titus Skistad, Nicole and Monte Finifrock, Kai Richardson, Havanna and Emilio Horta.

A memorial visitation will be held 4-7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7, and will continue at 10 a.m. until the 11 a.m. memorial service Monday, Nov. 8, all at Nelson Funeral Care. Direct memorials to Milwaukee Road Historical Association, P.O. Box 307 Antioch IL 60002-0307.



### Obituary policy

The cost for an obituary in the Pine Knot News is \$75 and can include up to two photos. Death notices with just name, date of birth and death, city of residence and service information are printed at no cost. Email notices and obituaries with attachments to:

[obits@pineknotnews.com](mailto:obits@pineknotnews.com)  
by 2 p.m. on Tuesdays.

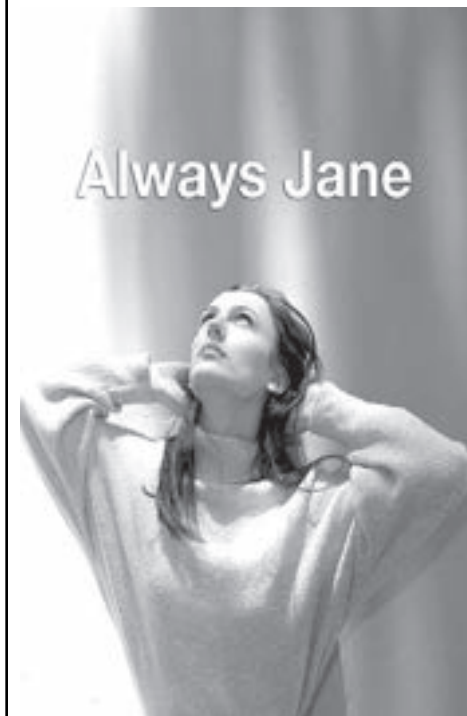
Visit [PineKnotNews.com](http://PineKnotNews.com) for more photo coverage of your favorite events.

# The STREAM Scene

Where all the top choices can be found in one place!



Always Jane



#### "Always Jane"

This four-part documentary series from first-time documentarian Jonathan C. Hyde follows the coming-of-age story of Jane Noury, a transgender teen from rural New Jersey who tackles obstacles as she plans to leave the nest upon graduation from high school, supported with love and humor by her family. (ORIGINAL)

GAIÁ



#### "Movie: Gaia"

An injured park ranger's relief and gratitude soon turn to concern when he notices the father/son survivalists who rescued him from deep in the wild displaying an almost cultist devotion to the forest in this 2021 drama from South Africa. Monique Rockman, Carel Nel and Anthony Oseyemi head the cast for director Jaco Bouwer ("Rage").

GENTEFIED



#### "Gentefied"

The sophomore round of this bilingual dramedy continues the adventures of three Mexican-American cousins chasing the American Dream in Los Angeles, even while that same dream threatens the things they hold dear — their neighborhood, their immigrant grandfather and the family taco shop. Joaquín Cosío, J.J. Soria and Karrie Martin head the cast. (ORIGINAL)



#### "Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings" (Nov. 12)

From Marvel Studios comes this newest superhero saga that follows Shang-Chi (Simu Liu), a master of weaponry-based Kung Fu, who must confront the past he thought he left behind when he is drawn into the mysterious Ten Rings organization. Destin Daniel Cretton directs a solid cast that also includes Awkwafina, Michelle Yeoh and Tony Leung. (ORIGINAL)



## VETERANS DAY 2021

HONORING ALL  
WHO PUT ON THE UNIFORM

We asked, and many answered. On the following pages you will find but a small sample of people from the area who have served in the United States military. We thank them and their families for sharing their stories and photos.

**Enjoy this special edition of the Pine Knot News.**

# HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

**Robert E. Anderson** served in the Army 1951-52. A radioman, Corporal Anderson was stationed at what was then Camp Carson, Colorado, then with the 196th Regimental Combat Team, which was assigned to Fort Richardson, Alaska, during the Korean War to defend Elmendorf Air Force Base from Russian air warfare.



Aviation Machinist's Mate Third Class **Charles Beck** served in the Navy 1953-1957 at Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas.

**Steven Birkemeyer** served 20 years in the United States Air Force. Technical Sergeant Birkemeyer's career included duty stations Yokota Air Base and Ellsworth, Pope, Holloman, Fairchild, Plattsburgh and Elmendorf Air Force bases.



Specialist **John Blanchard** served three years in the Army. He was stationed in Germany and Vietnam. Son **Jeffrey Blanchard** has served in the Army for 12½ years, in Baumholder, Germany, Iraq and Washington state.



**James Thomas Elmer** served in the Navy. He was stationed at Quonset Point, North Kingstown, Rhode Island, and served aboard the USS Essex.

Corporal **Clyde Ekbohm** of the Army served in the Vietnam War 1969-1972.

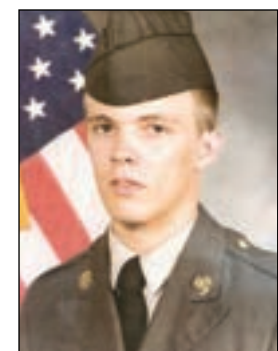


Petty Officer **Gary Dahl**, second from right, served 4½ years in the Navy. He was hospital corpsman third class stationed aboard the USS Everglades and at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas.

**Jerome Victor Buczynski** served in the Army 1965-1967. He was an illustrator and paratrooper in Army Airborne special services and the 5th Special Forces Group in Vietnam. A photograph of Buczynski on a jump serves as the backdrop in this composite image provided by the U.S. Army.

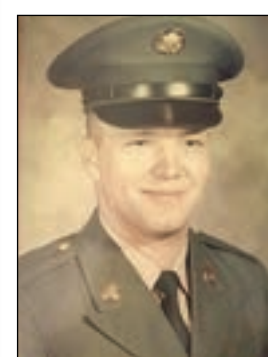


**Tom Brabec** was stationed in Korea and on active duty with the Army for two years. Sergeant Brabec continued his military service with 18 years in the Wisconsin Army National Guard.



Brothers Andrew, left, and Franklin Chalberg served in the Army. Senior Master Sergeant **Andrew Chalberg** was stationed at the 148th Fighter Wing, a unit of the Minnesota Air National Guard in Duluth. His 20 years of service included duty at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. Private First Class **Franklin Chalberg's** five years of service included duty in Germany.

Second Lt. **Rose Chu** followed in the footsteps of her brother Joe, who was born in China when the communist movement took hold, became an American citizen as a youth, and went on to serve in the Navy as a dentist in the late 1970s. She enlisted in the Army as a PFC and trained at Fort McClellan. She was stationed with the 310th TAACOM in Germany in the late 1980s during the historic fall of the Berlin Wall.



Chief Warrant Officer 2 **Marvin L. Durkee** served in Vietnam 1968-1970. Chief Durkee was an Army helicopter pilot.

**William Roger Bottila** served in the United States Navy 1955-1958.

**Charles Franks** served in the United States Army 1964-1966. Specialist Franks was stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado and in Vietnam.

Though we can never repay our debt to our Veterans, we can honor them by never forgetting their sacrifice.

A Veteran is someone who wrote a blank check made payable to the United States of America for an amount up to and including their life. And, many did.

Thanks, Veterans.

*Carlton County Republicans*

With respect, honor, and gratitude. Thank you, Veterans.

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# HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



Petty Officer **William Ekholm**, left, served in the Navy 1942-1943 during World War II. Son **Rich Ekholm**, above, served four years in the Navy. Petty Officer Ekholm was stationed aboard the USS Constellation in Vietnam.



**Wendell "Windy" Falstrom** enlisted in the Navy after graduating Cloquet High School in 1954. After four years of active duty, he continued his service in the Reserve. Chief Petty Officer Falstrom's 30 years of service include captaining a swift boat, ensuring safe passage for tankers in the Persian Gulf in the late 1980s.



Petty Officer **Bob Francisco** served two years in Vietnam with the Navy.



Airman First Class **Clifton E. Gilchrist**, left, was a crew chief in the Air Force. He was stationed in Texas for one year and in England for three years. Grandson **Dane Clifton Kiehn** served the Army National Guard for six years as a field artillery specialist.



Scanlon native **Rodney Green** served in the Marine Corps 1951-1954 in Korea and Japan. He was the recipient of two Purple Hearts. He is pictured here being awarded the Navy Cross in the early 1950s. He was honorably discharged as a corporal and went on to serve in the Reserve as a master sergeant. He died in 2008.

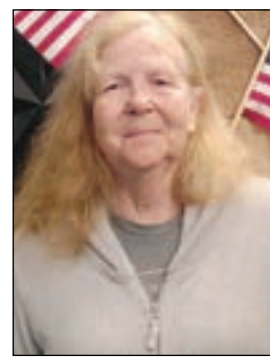


**Arthur Allen Johnson**, center above and left photo below, served in the Army 1947-1951 in Europe and Korea. He died in 2020. His brother-in-law and close friend, **Curtis Oswald**, below right photos, served in the Navy 1968-1972. Petty Officer Oswald was a hospital corpsman third class on the USS Enterprise, deployed to Vietnam.



Army buck sergeant **Jim Frey** was stationed at Camp Holloway in Vietnam 1967-1969.

**Joyce Marie Loons** served five years with the Army. Sergeant Loons was stationed in Okinawa, Japan.



Private First Class **Sheryl Hernandez** served three years in the Army. She was stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington.

Sergeant **Ed Janke** was stationed in Korea and served in the Army 1952-1954.



Corporal **Ahti Kantonen** was stationed in Germany and served in the Army three years during World War II.

**Cassius D. Koepke** served in the Army 1942-1945 during World War II in Europe, with the "Timberwolf" division of the 104th Infantry Division, which liberated the concentration camp in Nordhausen. Staff Sergeant Koepke was a Bronze Star recipient.



Specialist **Spencer R. Moon** served with the Army Security Agency Field Station in Hakata, Japan. His seven years of service in the Army included duty with the National Guard in Tracy, Minnesota.

For all who serve and have served.  
Thank you.

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# HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



**Chester A. Nelson** served 35 years in the Air Force and Air Force Reserve, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. While in Pawling, New York, he helped develop a rehabilitation program for returning veterans.

Corporal **Donald M. Nichols** served in the Marine Corps for two years. He was killed in action in Korea.



Corporal Myron Hohnstadt was drafted and served in the Army 1952-54. He went to Fort Riley, Kansas for basic training, where he ended up being a cook. He was later assigned to Berlin, Germany. He was able to join the military police and work in the motorpool.

Lance Corporal **Vern Northrup** served in the Marine Corps 1970-1973. He was stationed at the Recruit Depot in San Diego, Camp Pendleton, the Cherry Point air station in North Carolina, and at Camp Lejeune with the 2nd Marine Division field artillery unit. He entered service at age 17. His mother had died in a car crash the year before, and he said it was difficult to focus at school. "So I asked my dad if he would sign, and he did. It helped me become a man at a time that I needed to," Vern told the Pine Knot News during a visit last week.



There are many veterans in the Northrup family. It started with his grandfather, **Joseph Northrup**, who was in the National Guard in Duluth. He joined during World War II and they were federalized, Vern said. Joseph Northrup had four sons who served in the military during World War II: **Stanley George Northrup**, an Army private who was stationed in the South Pacific; **Francis J. Northrup**, who served in the European Theater with the Army; **Robert M. Northrup**, an Army private who served in the European Theater; and **Ernest Tecumseh Northrup**, an Army medic.

Three of Vern's four brothers served: **James (Jim) Northrup II** joined the Marines Corps in 1961. He was on a ship near Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis and was a 1965-66 Vietnam combat veteran; **Rodney Charles** served in the Army, with action in Vietnam, 1951-1980; **Jeffrey Allen Northrup** served in the Army 1962-2006.

Another generation has continued the military tradition, including Jim's son, **Matthew Northrup**, and Vern's grandson, **Andrew Bauer**. Matthew served in the Army 1989-1993. Andrew served in the Army in Iraq 2017-2020,



Corporal **William J. Powell** served in the Army 1955-1957 at Fort Chaffee in Arkansas, Fort Meade, Maryland, and at headquarters in Heidelberg, Germany.



**Esa T. Ojala**, top center, is a retired master sergeant with 20 years of service in the Air Force, including two tours in Vietnam. Moving clockwise in this Air Force family: Retired Master Sergeant **Cathy Ojala Stubbs** served 20 years. Her son, Master Sgt. **Eric Stubbs**, is on active duty with the Air Force, stationed at the Pentagon. Son **Tyler Stubbs** served four years in the Coast Guard and now works for the Military Sealift Command. Below Cathy is Technical Sergeant **Thane Ojala**, who has 18 years of service. Senior Airman **Irene Ojala Davenport** has four years of service. Master Sergeant **Wayne Ojala** served 22 years and is now with the Air Force's Civil Service. His son Sgt. **Jari Ojala** served four years in the Marine Corps. Completing the Ojala family circle is Chief Master Sergeant Marie Ojala, who retired after 21 years. She was the first woman in the Air National Guard in Duluth to make the rank of chief.



**John Prouty**, above, served two years in the Army. Private Prouty was stationed in Germany. His son, Sgt. **Sean Prouty**, right, was on active duty with the Air Force and served in the Air National Guard at the 148th Fighter Wing in Duluth.



Airman First Class **Gerald M. Starkey** served four years in the Air Force. He was a radar specialist stationed at Great Falls, Montana, and Anchorage, Alaska.



Master Sgt. **Larry Sell**, center, served 30 years in the Air Force, the Cloquet Army Guard, and the Air Guard in Duluth. He was stationed in Vietnam, Texas, Guam, and North Dakota. Son David Sell, left, an Air Force lieutenant colonel, also served 30 years, including three tours in Afghanistan. Son Sgt. **Jeffrey Sell** served six years in the Marine Corps in Hawaii and Okinawa.

**Dennis W. Picconatto** served 39 years in the Army, including duty with the National Guard. Master Sergeant Picconatto was stationed at numerous domestic posts and abroad.

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# HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

**Gordon Richard Mattson** served in the Navy 1943-1945. Seaman First Class Mattson was stationed at the Naval Training Station in Farragut, Idaho. Daughter Catherine Wagner says her dad, before World War II, was very active in sports. He played baseball, basketball, golf, hockey, roller skated and tried some boxing. He also was an excellent log roller. "Soon after the war ended he became a Cloquet fire-fighter but died of a heart attack fighting a fire in 1975. He was only 52. He is surely missed."



**Francis L. Setterquist** of Cloquet graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1966. He was reported missing after his aircraft did not return from a reconnaissance mission over North Vietnam Aug. 23, 1968.



**Paul Beaupre**, above left, served in the Army in World War II. His grandson, Staff Sgt. **Adam Sheda** also served in the Army, including duty in the Army National Guard in Iraq. Adam's father, **Tony Sheda**, right, was in the Navy, serving in the Cuban Missile Crisis blockade and in the Vietnam War.



**Stewart "Toby" Wayne Tobias** served in the Navy 1944-1946 during World War II as a fireman second class aboard the USS Rutilicus in Okinawa.

Master Sgt. **Dan Unlock** served 20 years, 5 months in the Air Force. He was stationed in Florida and Colorado; Ramstein Air Base and Lindsey Air Station, Germany; Duluth International Airport and New Jersey. He had other assignments in Washington, D.C., Nevada and the U.S. Embassy in Cairo, Egypt.



This drawing, done by Thomas Whitebird's granddaughter, depicts his time in Vietnam.

## 'Veterans need someone'

**Jana Peterson**  
news@PineKnotNews.com

Thomas Whitebird is back. As of last week, he again took on the job of Veterans Service Officer (VSO) for the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. "I couldn't stay away, because the veterans need someone," said Whitebird, who retired from the job early in the pandemic.

It's a case of making sure there is someone there to look out for the veterans and making the difference today that he and his fellow Vietnam veterans needed more than 50 years ago.

Whitebird was with 50 soldiers who boarded a bus outside the Tulip Shop in Cloquet and headed to Minneapolis and on to basic training during the Vietnam War. Out of those 50, there's only a handful left, he said.

The veteran remembers the friends and fellow soldiers who fell in Vietnam, and those who died years later from the emotional and physical effects of the war.

When Whitebird got out of the Army in 1970, the public response was different than today's generally respectful attitude toward veterans.

"People wouldn't shake your hand or look at you," he said. "Now I can't go to Walmart or L&M where somebody doesn't come up and shake my hand."

During the Cloquet Memorial Day service this year, Whitebird shared a story about a little boy who



Fond du Lac Veterans Service Officer Thomas Whitebird was recognized in 2017 with a Veterans' Voices Award from the Minnesota Humanities Center. Minnesotans from across the state nominated veterans who have honorably served and have shown exemplary community service beyond their military service. *Jana Peterson / Pine Knot News*

approached him and tugged on his pants despite his dad telling him to leave Whitebird alone. The little boy said "thank you," then stood back and saluted. Just telling the story makes him emotional.

"I lost a lot of my friends," he said. "A lot of them from around here never died there. Terrible, they not only had to fight a war, they had to

fight disease."

Whitebird said he's met a lot of veterans who didn't know what kind of services are available to them in his eight years as service officer. He stresses that he is trying to look after all veterans, leaving the Pine Knot office to deliver Black Bear Casino buffet coupons for the Cloquet Combined Honor Guard volunteers, to say thanks for everything they do.

He was honored in 2017 with a Veterans' Voices Award from the Minnesota Humanities Center. Minnesotans from across the state nominated veterans who have honorably served and have shown exemplary community service beyond their military service. Whitebird doesn't know who nominated him, but the award meant a lot.

"I'm trying to do a good job but I wish I'd been here 20 years ago," Whitebird said in a previous interview. "It's a hard job, but it's coming out pretty good."

The awards are part of the Humanities Center's Veterans' Voices program that draws on the power of the humanities to call attention to the contributions and often-missed stories of veterans. Other Veterans Voices recipients from Carlton County include Esko's Mike Waldron, a Marine Corps veteran who has worked to help fellow veterans living with trauma through 23rd Veteran, and the late Jim Northrup, well-known author and poet, Vietnam War combat veteran and Fond du Lac band member.

**Robert Wallace** was a buck sergeant in the Army, serving from 1967 to 1971 in Okinawa, Japan, and in Frankfurt, Germany, where he eventually settled.

He was born and raised in Cloquet and comes home to the Fond du Lac reservation every year to visit. "When I got married, First Lt. Frank Jerry was best man in my wedding. I was trying to locate him for years, I found him through my son, Dennis. When I came home this year, he came up from Texas. It was the first time I'd seen him in 50 years."

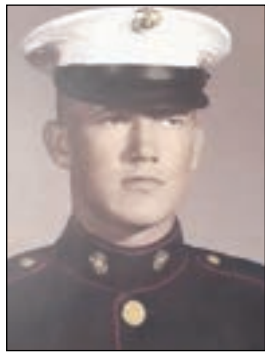


Sgt. **Roger Williams Sr.** served four years in the Air Force at Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota.

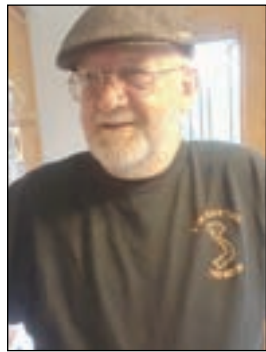
Chief Master Sgt. **Christopher Skelton** served in the Iraq War 2003-2004, and in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars 2007-2008 and 2010-2011. Chris is a Carlton High School graduate.



# HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



Sgt. **Ronald R. Riel** served in the Marine Corps 1968-1971, including time in Vietnam.



Chief Warrant Officer **Robert E. Lee** served 25 years in the Coast Guard. Chief Lee was stationed in Kodiak, Alaska, and Grand Marais, Minnesota.



Private First Class **Robert C. Rodd** served in the Marine Corps 1953-1956. He was in the Korean War 11 months and 21 days. He was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal.



## Honor guard continues to stand for the fallen

**Pine Knot News**

For members of the Cloquet Combined Honor Guard, every day is a veteran's day. Like other honor guard groups across the country, these volunteer veterans provide honors at veteran funerals. "It all comes back to honor

and respect for the veterans and veterans' families," said veteran and honor guard member Rich Ekholm. "We are all honored and privileged to do this." While funeral services make up the majority of its engagements — often many times a week — the group does much more than that. The Cloquet

guard usually leads local parades, bearing flags for each branch of service. They travel to cemeteries on Memorial Day, playing taps and rendering a gun salute. Members visit with students for events such as Flag Day, or the annual school patrol pizza party. The Cloquet Combined Honor Guard includes veterans from

Cloquet's VFW Post, the American Legion, and the Disabled American Veterans. The Fond du Lac Honor Guard often works with the Cloquet Honor Guard. Other honor guard groups in Carlton County include the Carlton Honor Guard, Barnum Honor Guard and the Moose Lake Honor Guard.

Capt. John Prouty said the group keeps going strong, despite the pandemic. They will help out other honor guards as well. "We will cover the whole area, wherever we're needed." How does a veteran get into the Cloquet honor guard? Show interest. Call John Prouty at 218-729-8458.

# Thank you Minnesotans.

### Your collaboration and commitment were unprecedented.

Thank you to communities, tribal nations, landowners, businesses, union workers, contractors, civic leaders and supporters for your efforts to ensure the Line 3 Replacement Project was properly approved and safely constructed.

After more than eight years working together through extensive community engagement and comprehensive environmental, regulatory and legal review, the replaced Line 3 is now safely delivering the reliable and low-cost energy people in the Midwest depend on every day.

To learn more about the Line 3 Replacement Project, visit [enbridge.com/line3us](https://enbridge.com/line3us).







Open since Veterans Day 2018, the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery-Duluth is the third state veterans cemetery. The addition of the Saginaw cemetery was part of a nationwide campaign by the National Cemetery Administration to provide burial within 75 miles of a veteran's home.

# A 'beautiful' final resting place for vets

Jana Peterson  
news@pineknotnews.com

Although it was not a happy event, Cloquet's Patricia Johnson said her father would have approved of his funeral at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery-Duluth, held on what would have been Arthur Johnson's 93rd birthday.

The Cloquet Combined Honor Guard provided funeral honors, including a color guard, the playing of taps and a rifle volley. After taps, two Army representatives folded the U.S. flag into the symbolic tricorn shape and presented it to Johnson's family.

"He would have loved the military honors and the flags," his daughter said. "And it's a beautiful place."

Arthur Allen Johnson served in the U.S. Army 1947-1951. He was a veteran of both World War II and the Korean War. Because of that service almost 70 years before his death, Johnson and his wife, Charlotte, were both eligible to be buried at the State Veterans Cemetery.

Open since Veterans Day 2018, the cemetery near Duluth is the third state veterans cemetery. The addition of the Duluth cemetery was part of a nation-

wide campaign by the National Cemetery Administration to provide burial within 75 miles of a veteran's home. The closest VA national cemetery to this site is the Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis, approximately 160 miles away.



Arthur Johnson

Cemetery administrator Cory Johnson said the fact that our region has the second-highest veteran population within a 75-mile radius was key to getting the cemetery constructed. A federal grant from the National Cemetery Administration funded \$8.3 million of the \$9.6 million project; the balance was funded through state appropriation.

The cemetery administrator said the biggest selling point to veterans and their families is the perpetual care promised by the state and the federal government. "This cemetery will always be cared for, even 100 years from now when we reach full capacity — well outside of our lifetimes — there will always be staff here, giving the utmost care to all of the gravesites we have here at the cemetery," he said.

The grounds of the three-year-old cemetery are immaculate.



Arthur Johnson's family and friends gather and listen to retired pastor Dennis Morreim during the Cloquet veteran's June 11 funeral service at the Committal Shelter at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery-Duluth in Saginaw. Photos by Jana Peterson / Pine Knot News

*Continued on next page*



Fresh flowers are always welcome at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery-Duluth, although they will be removed when they become faded or unsightly. Artificial flowers are permitted Oct. 15 through April 15 only.

# Cemetery ...

*Continued from previous page*

There is the Committal Shelter where loved ones gather for funeral services, the straight white rows of white marble gravestones, and the stone and marble columbariums. Even the fresh flowers or other gravesite decorations are strictly regulated.

There is no cost for the services, the burial site or the gravestone for the veteran. Costs are minimal for the spouse or eligible dependents. Deceased veterans can be reinterred at the veterans cemetery if the family decides they want to do that.

Currently in the first phase of 10, the cemetery has 2,500 available burial sites. That includes two in-ground urn sections, or columbariums, with individual urn compartments sealed by a marble plaque with the decedent's information, as well as two sections reserved for more traditional casket burials. One of the casket sections includes 850 preplaced crypts — sized to hold both veteran and spouse.

"They do that (the double depth) to create efficiencies so we can serve as many veterans and their families as possible," the



Stone and marble columbariums hold urns at the cemetery.

cemetery director said, adding that so far roughly 90 percent of the people interred at the cemetery have been cremated. If both spouses are buried there, the veteran's name is on one side — facing the flag — and the spouse's information is on the other side.

Funerals are scheduled Monday through Friday, leaving weekends for families who want to visit their loved ones uninterrupted, Cory Johnson said.

The public information center building has a computerized "gravesite locator" inside, which looks a little like an ATM at first glance.

There is also a place for quiet reflection, a pathway not far from the main office that leads through the trees to a memorial wall replicating the original "Walking into the Unknown" sculpture created by Wayne



Two Army representatives carry a U.S. flag and Arthur Johnson's remains during Johnson's funeral service in June at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery.

Williams in 1996 for his father, a Vietnam veteran who was dying from exposure to Agent Orange during the war.

The wall shows the back of a soldier, loaded up with gear and a gun, walking forward toward the wall.

It represents every veteran who has ever put on the uniform, according to the nearby explanation, "a journey of sacrifice made by every Soldier, Marine, Sailor or Airman who has ever served our country in peacetime or war."

## For your information

Burial at a State Veterans Cemetery is open to all veterans discharged from active military service under conditions other than dishonorable. Their spouses, minor children, and under certain conditions, unmarried adult children, are also eligible for burial. Eligible spouses may be buried, even if they predecease the veteran. Also eligible for burial are members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces, the National Guard, and the Reserve Officer Training Corps who die while on active duty for training or performing service or who have 20 years of service in reserve components of the armed forces creditable for retired pay. There is no residency requirement for burial; veterans from any state who meet eligibility criteria can choose burial at a Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery.

To register for burial, or learn more about burial at a State Veterans Cemetery, including the Duluth cemetery, please visit [www.MinnesotaVeteran.org](http://www.MinnesotaVeteran.org) CEM or call 1-888-LinkVet.

## VETERANS DAY DINNER

*presented by the American Legion Auxiliary and Cloquet VFW Auxiliary*

**Thursday, November 11  
3:00 – 6:00 p.m.**

Turkey dinner with all the fixings. Pickup only. Advance order required: call 218-210-7793 by 5 p.m. Tuesday

**No charge to veterans,  
\$10 for others.**



**Cloquet VFW Post 3979 • 210 Arch St., Cloquet**



A memorial wall at the cemetery replicates the "Walking into the Unknown" sculpture created by Wayne Williams in 1996. It was in honor of his father, a Vietnam veteran who was dying from exposure to Agent Orange during the war.

## VETERANS DAY EVENTS

### Turkey dinner

The Cloquet VFW and American Legion auxiliaries are offering a turkey dinner 3 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 11. Call the VFW bar in advance at 218-210-7793 to reserve meals by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 9. Meals are pick-up only from the VFW parking lot. No charge to veterans with military ID. Others \$10.

### Roast beef dinner

Carlton VFW Post 2962 Veterans Day will have a roast beef dinner with the program starting at 5 p.m. and dinner at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 11. No charge to

veterans with DD Form 214. Others \$10, \$8 for age 12 and under. No registration necessary. Questions? Call 218-384-3794.

### Programs

Celebrate Veterans Day with a program starting at 9 a.m. in the big gymnasium at Carlton High School. This event is open to the public. Remember to wear a mask, please.

Cromwell-Wright school will offer treats 1-1:30 p.m. in the cafeteria and present a program honoring veterans 1:30-2:30 p.m. in the big gym.

# Honoring All Who Served

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## COVID-19 UPDATE



# County jail steers clear of Covid cloud

Of the roughly two dozen people incarcerated in the Carlton County jail daily, just two have tested positive for the coronavirus, along with one worker. It has been following state and federal guidelines — including wearing masks, quarantining anyone with symptoms in single cells and offering the vaccine to both jail inmates and staff. *Pine Knot News photo*

## Vaccinations aren't tracked; but so far, so good

Kirsti Marohn  
MPR News

*'I've heard some staff [say] that if it is mandated, they won't probably continue working here.'*

— Carlton County public health specialist Holly Compo

Eighteen months into the Covid-19 pandemic, the Carlton County jail has managed so far to avoid an outbreak.

Of the roughly two dozen people incarcerated in the jail daily, just two have tested positive for the coronavirus, along with one worker. That's fortunate, because in the close quarters of a jail, a contagious virus can spread quickly.

Public health specialist Holly Compo, who works in the jail, said they've followed state and federal guidelines — including wearing masks, quarantining anyone with symptoms in single cells and offering the vaccine to both jail inmates and staff.

Compo estimated that nearly three-quarters of jail employees are vaccinated, but she doesn't know for sure.

"We're not mandating, and we're not officially tracking," she said.

Unlike state prisons, which are operated by the Minnesota Department of Corrections, jails are under the authority of county sheriffs, who set their own policies.

Since September, employees at Minnesota's state prisons have been required to show proof of vaccination for Covid-19, or submit to weekly testing.

But only two Minnesota counties — Hennepin and Ramsey — have a similar requirement for county employees.

Most, like Carlton County, are taking a more restrained approach by providing opportunities and sometimes incentives for employees to get Covid vaccinations, but not requiring or tracking them.

"There's no systematic collec-

tion," said Rebecca Schlafer, an assistant professor at the University of Minnesota Medical School. "It's like a hodgepodge across all 87 counties, which is wildly problematic."

Schlafer is helping lead a project aimed at increasing Covid vaccinations among staff and people incarcerated in prisons and jails, which received funding from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Finding data on the vaccination status of people incarcerated or working in Minnesota jails is challenging, Schlafer said.

"You can't ask the sheriff's association, 'Hey, how many of your jail staff across the state are vaccinated?' They have no idea," she said.

In August, Schlafer's team sur-

veyed jail staff across Minnesota to gauge their attitudes about vaccination. Of the 189 respondents from 26 counties, nearly 70 percent had already received Covid vaccines.

But most of those who had not gotten a vaccine said they didn't intend to. Some voiced concerns about potential side effects, or said they didn't think it was necessary. Others cited misinformation about the vaccine's safety.

"They were absolutely not going to get it for a variety of reasons," said Ingie Osman, a public health professional at the University of Minnesota and the project's director. "And a really big reason that people had stated was really a lack of trust in the systems recommending the vaccines."

From the survey results, the University of Minnesota team came up with some ideas to help boost vaccinations, including offering incentives or having credible health care professionals address misinformation. They also suggested that prisons and jails emphasize how getting vaccinated aligns with their public safety mission.

Vaccine hesitancy is concerning in jails, where people come and go more frequently than prisons, Schlafer said.

"It's not just about folks in the jail that are getting infected," she said. "Those staff get infected. They go back to community, they go back to their churches, they go back to their kids' schools. And then we see this spread of infection."

As of Oct. 22, there have been 1,358 confirmed cases of Covid-19 among people incarcerated or detained in Minnesota jails.

*Continued on next page*

## Vaccinations now open for those age 5 and older

MPR News

Starting this week, Minnesota kids age 5-11 now have access to Covid-19 vaccines, as the state started rolling out doses of the Pfizer shots tailor-made for younger children.

"Getting our children vaccinated will help our kids be kids again," said Gov. Tim Walz in a news release announcing the next phase of the state's vaccination campaign. "Now that the vaccine is approved for kids ages 5-11, Minnesota is ready to administer these shots quickly, efficiently, and equitably. I encourage fam-

ilies to make a plan to get their child vaccinated and help keep them safe."

State officials say that more than 1,000 vaccine providers are involved in the rollout, and there will be about 255,000 doses in the state by this weekend — enough to vaccinate about half the children in this age group.

The state's latest vaccine rollout comes after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention gave its final approval for the Pfizer shots to be given to this age group.

The shots are arriving at a critical time during the pandem-

ic, when many new cases are cropping up among school-age children.

Meanwhile, the state has launched a new webpage aimed at educating parents about the benefits of having their children vaccinated — and with information on how to find vaccines.

State and school officials are making the case that vaccines will allow kids to get back to school and activities safely — and, in some cases, without the hassle of long quarantines if they are exposed.

Health experts also point out that some children do get very

sick — and die — from the virus. Covid-19 has also caused a rare and potentially life-threatening inflammatory syndrome in some children. Some children get long-Covid syndrome after contracting the virus.

Vaccinating children limits transmission of the virus. Public health experts say that could blunt opportunities for the virus to develop more dangerous mutations.

"We want parents to feel confident that the vaccine is safe and will help protect their children from the severe effects of Covid-19," said Minnesota

Department of Health Commissioner Jan Malcolm. "Having questions is normal. Reach out to your family's health care provider or seek out information from trusted sources so you are ready to get your child vaccinated when they are eligible."

Shots will be available at pharmacies and medical clinics, and many locations, including those in Carlton County and the Duluth area, are already scheduling appointments.

In an effort to make vaccines more accessible, state officials say they will also partner with schools to host vaccinations.



Kelsey Knutson, left, with her mom and sister Kaitlin, who tested positive for a gene mutation that signals breast cancer. Kelsey knew she was likely to test positive as well, and she did. *Contributed photo*

# Genetic likelihoods drive screenings for breast cancer

Tony Matt  
Essentia Health

Breast cancer is the second-most common cancer among women in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. One in eight women will develop breast cancer, which claims the lives of an estimated 43,600 women each year.

In September 2019, then-18-year-old Kelsey Knutson of Virginia decided to get screened. That might seem young, but Knutson knew it was time, due to her family history.

“My mom had breast cancer and my grandma had both breast and ovarian cancer,” said Knutson. “It turns out there is a genetic mutation that runs in my family that puts me at high risk.”

Knutson’s older sister, Kaitlin, had been tested for the mutation a few years earlier. When it was confirmed that Kaitlin had it, Kelsey knew she was likely to as well. Her test came back positive.

The BRCA1 mutation is a cancer gene that is often inherited.

“People with the BRCA1 mutations have hereditary breast cancer, which places them at a higher-than-average risk for developing breast cancer as well as ovarian cancer,” said Carolyn Olson, an advanced practice registered nurse in Essentia Health’s breast health program. “On average, a woman carries a 12.5-percent lifetime risk of developing breast cancer.”

The mutation doesn’t mean Knutson has cancer, but at just 20 years old she has an 83-percent lifetime risk of developing breast cancer.

“I was in shock at first. I just thought this meant I was going to get breast cancer one day and lose all my hair,” Knutson said.

Knutson immediately scheduled follow-up appointments

with her providers at Essentia to determine the best path forward and how to reduce her chances of developing breast cancer.

They recommended a healthy diet, regular exercise and limiting alcohol intake.

“I think a lot of people would think this is a death sentence,” Knutson said. “For me, it’s really opened my eyes and helped me take control of my health care. It’s also an eye-opener that has helped me really enjoy living in the present and focus on things that I enjoy.”

For women at average risk, annual mammograms and clinical breast exams should start at age 40, according to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network.

“We also recommend breast self-awareness at any age, maintaining a healthy lifestyle of moderate exercise, keeping your body mass index below 25, smoking cessation and minimal alcohol intake,” Olson said. “For persons that are high-risk, which is someone with a greater than 20-percent lifetime risk of developing breast cancer, depending on their age and other factors, they should have (an exam) every six months, an annual mammogram and an annual breast MRI.”

For now, Knutson gets yearly breast exams and does self-examinations regularly. Upon turning 25, she will undergo yearly MRIs to monitor for cancerous growths and start her mammograms at 30.

“I would recommend taking care of your breast health to anyone,” Knutson said. “It’s better to keep an eye on things and catch them early than to wait for them to progress and potentially be more difficult to treat.”

Because of advancements in treatment, the survival rate is much higher for breast cancer patients than it once was, especially if detected early.

“According to the Ameri-

## Making screenings easier

Minnesota’s U.S. Senate delegation of Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith were among a group of legislators that introduced legislation recently to promote the use of preventive health care services, like physicals, mammograms and other cancer screenings, and routine examinations.

Studies have found that more than one in three adults reported delaying or forgoing health care because of coronavirus-related concerns. Other statistics show that the odds that a woman received a breast cancer screening were 20 percent lower in 2020 compared to 2019, and during the early months of the pandemic, health screenings for children decreased in frequency by 40 percent.

“Following my breast cancer diagnosis earlier this year, this issue is personal to me,” Klobuchar said. “While I was fortunate to have caught the cancer at an early stage, that is not the case for many. As a result of delays in care due to the pandemic, doctors continue to see patients who have developed more serious conditions that could have been caught earlier.”

The Preventive Care Awareness Act would:

- Award grants to states, territories, localities, and Tribal organizations to increase appropriate utilization and decrease disparities in preventive care services;
- Establish a task force to develop recommendations addressing preventive care access during the coronavirus pandemic and future public health emergencies; and
- Direct Health and Human Services to undertake a coordinated, focused public health education campaign to enhance access to preventive services.

can Cancer Society, on average, early detection of a Stage 1 breast cancer has a 99-percent five-year relative survival rate,” Olson said.

“If you do have this mutation, don’t be scared and make rash decisions,” Knutson said. “Just take the necessary precautions, do routine screening and stay in touch with your doctor. Live life normally and freely. Yes, I was scared at first, but you can’t go through life that way. It will only set you back.”

Knutson is a junior at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks. She is majoring in pre-med biology and hopes one day to attend medical school with an emphasis on genetics — a decision driven in part by her own family history.

“I wasn’t interested in genet-

ics until I found out I had this mutation,” Knutson said. “It drives me to learn more about all genetic diseases and hopefully be able to help more people in the future.”

When she’s not at school, Knutson can be found hunting, snowmobiling or spending time with her large and tightknit family — things she enjoys now more than ever before.

“People feel sorry for me for having this mutation, but I don’t think of it that way. It’s allowed me to live a little bit more and push me in what I want to do in life and driven me to want to help people in my career when I’m done with college,” Knutson said.

Signs and symptoms to look for include changes in the size or shape of the breast, lumps, a change in skin texture and more.

## Jails ...

*Continued  
from previous page*

There have been 661 cases among jail staff since the start of the pandemic, according to the state health department.

Sherburne County experienced a recent outbreak in its jail in Elk River. Sheriff Joel Brott said they contained it by quarantining people in negative pressure cells that help control the spread of infection.

Brott said the county has been following health department guidelines to keep the virus at bay, including wearing masks and cleaning thoroughly. And they’ve offered both jail employees and inmates the opportunity to get vaccinated.

Brott said he got the vaccine himself. But he said he doesn’t know how many of his staff have done so, and doesn’t believe in pressuring them about it.

“They’ve come to work for nearly two years, every day, and wear the appropriate PPE (personal protective equipment),” Brott said. “And now, to try to force something on them, I think is just wrong. I think it’s really a personal choice between them and their doctor.”

Amanda Larson, the county’s health and human services director, said the reluctance among some staff to get the vaccine reflects attitudes in the wider community.

“I don’t know if it’s specific to our jail population,” she said. “I think it’s the normal Sherburne County, central Minnesota, vaccine hesitancy. People don’t like the government telling them what to do.”

Larson said she’s concerned about high levels of transmission of the virus in the community, not specifically in the jail. She said her staff is working to share accurate information about the vaccine, and the county is offering a \$50 gift card to anyone in the community who gets vaccinated.

In Carlton County, Compo also said she tries to dispel myths about the vaccine’s safety. But some employees have made up their minds to not get it, she said.

“I’ve heard some staff [say] that if it is mandated, they won’t probably continue working here,” Compo said.

What could change the situation is the Biden administration’s order that large employers ensure that their workers are vaccinated or test them weekly.

County officials say they’re waiting to see whether that requirement will include those who work for local governments — including in jails.

# COMMUNITIES

## LEGION DROPS CANDY, COMICS



The Cloquet American Legion Auxiliary donated Halloween safety coloring books for kindergarten and first-graders to both Cloquet public elementary schools recently. Here, auxiliary president Penny Buran delivers the coloring books and suckers to Churchill School principal David Wangen, above, and Washington School's Tara Fast, above right. "Our Country's Flag" comic books are delivered to Cloquet Middle School for fifth-graders to read during American Education Week by American Legion Auxiliary president Penny Buran to Willa Hanson, right.



## WRIGHT/CROMWELL NEWS

More than 80 folks turned out to help Alice and Ray Gurske, pictured, celebrate their 75th wedding anniversary Oct. 31 at Bethlehem Oct. 31. They thank all who helped make it such a special day. May they continue to enjoy the next years together, too!



The CACC hunters' supper, turkey and all the trimmings, complete with pumpkin pie, will be served 4-7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 5.

The Red Bird Bazaar is 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 6 at Cromwell-Wright School. Admission is \$1.

Lakeside Community Center will be holding a mojakka supper 4:30-8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 13 at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Wright. Raffle proceeds go toward insulation of the clubhouse; there will be two homemade quilts for a silent auction or raffle. Please come and join this endeavor.

Bethany Lutheran in Cromwell will hold its annual holiday bazaar Saturday, Nov. 20. Browse and Buy is 9 a.m.-10 a.m., followed by the auction. Crafts, white elephant items and baked goods are featured. Donations are also welcome.

In May, Dollars for Scholars awarded \$9,600 in scholarships to graduating seniors Eliana Anderson, Brandi Collman, Andrew Kosloski, Katherine Libbon, Madison Running and Elisabeth Kachinske. Due to Covid restrictions, there will be no Cromwell-Wright Dollars for Scholars meeting this year. DFS will have a booth at the Red Bird Bazaar.

The Caring Christmas program is now in full swing. Donation jars are out, as are raffle tickets for purchase at area businesses. Call Pam at 218-357-2042 to donate or make a referral. Referrals will be taken through Dec. 1. The raffle drawing is Dec. 6. The Caring Christmas gals really

### COMMUNITY COLUMNIST



Jennie Hanson

appreciate all the community support, as it makes Christmas great for so many kids.

A special invitation is extended to all area veterans to join the residents at the Villa Vista at 10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 11. Please stay for lunch, then attend a program at the school starting at 1 p.m. with treats, followed by a program honoring your service 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Sympathies to family and friends of Esther Ramona Beverly Harp, 88, of Cromwell, who passed away Oct. 28 at the Villa Vista Care Center in Cromwell. Ramona retired as postmaster in 1990, and shared her love of music by playing the organ at Bethany Lutheran Church and the piano at Villa Vista Care Center. In 1971, she fulfilled a dream of visiting relatives in Finland. A funeral service was scheduled for Thursday.

Alice Jahnke Legueri, 90, of Cloquet, passed away Oct. 29. She retired in 1979 after teaching in the Glenwood, Bemidji, Carlton and Cromwell schools.

I have an organ to sell or give away. No, it's not my liver or kidney, it's a two-key-board electric organ. It's in good condition and works well. Just give me a call 218-357-2385.

That's all the news from the Edge of Wright.

Send your news to Jennie at [jkh4@president@hotmail.com](mailto:jkh4@president@hotmail.com) or call at 218-357-2385.

## SUDOKU

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 |   |   | 2 | 8 |   |   |   |   |
|   |   | 2 |   |   |   |   |   | 9 |
| 3 |   |   |   | 8 |   | 7 | 4 |   |
|   |   | 3 | 5 |   | 7 |   | 2 |   |
|   |   |   | 1 |   |   | 4 | 6 |   |
|   |   |   |   | 6 | 9 | 3 |   |   |
|   |   | 4 |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 2 | 3 | 1 | 8 |   |   |   |   |   |
| 9 | 4 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

Using only the numbers 1 through 9, complete the grid so that no number is repeated in any row, column or grid. Each puzzle has one, and only one, unique solution.

Nothing puzzling about it ... The **Pine Knot News** is your only source for **local news**.

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### Across

- Laertes's sister
- \_\_\_ in the Dark
- Steering clear of
- Evening engagement
- Orthodontic device
- Venetian Renaissance painter
- Worked for a captain
- Pertaining to an inherent nature
- Namesakes of a Chaplin girl
- Change directions
- \_\_\_ Day vitamins
- Largest Asian telecom
- Summer month
- Author Chekhov
- Gathering a cache
- Kitchen pest
- Buzzing cloud
- Meat problem
- Vintage vehicle, for short
- Jewish holy days in Av
- Keep an \_\_\_ the ground
- Robert who played A.J. Soprano
- Compass point betw. S and SSE
- It may be sweet
- Cell messengers

- Spring features
- Spartan's foe
- In a hidden way
- \_\_\_ a dime
- Words of praise
- Hunt and Reddy
- Untalkative
- Songstress Della
- Actor Kutcher and others

### Down

- Put one \_\_\_ (fool)
- Packing a wallop
- Longfellow hero
- Adams and Falco
- Soprano Jenny called "The Swedish Nightingale"
- Suffix for hero or nectar
- Stranded, perhaps
- Actor John of TV's "Addams Family"
- "And \_\_\_ Goes" (Billy Joel song)
- Flirts with
- Rug type
- David Duchovny's wife
- Big name in oil
- \_\_\_ terrible (bad boy)
- Liberated, to Liesl
- Iran neighbor (abbr.)

## CROSSWORD

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 13 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 14 |    |    |    |    | 15 |
| 16 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 17 |    |    |    |    |    |
| 18 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 19 | 20 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 21 |    |    |    |    |    | 22 |    |    |    |    | 23 |    |    |    |
|    | 24 |    |    |    | 25 |    |    |    |    | 26 |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 27 | 28 |    |    |    |    | 29 |    |    | 30 |    |    |
|    | 31 | 32 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 33 |    | 34 |    |    |    |
| 35 |    |    |    | 36 |    | 37 | 38 | 39 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 40 |    |    | 41 |    |    | 42 |    |    |    |    | 43 | 44 | 45 |    |
| 46 |    |    |    |    | 47 |    |    |    |    | 48 |    |    |    | 49 |
| 50 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 52 |    |    |    |    |
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|    | 58 |    |    |    |    |    | 59 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

- Actress Gertz
- Govt. bureau
- Yes \_\_\_
- Come close to
- Playful marine mammal
- Hypothetical feature of the space-time continuum
- Milanese veal dish
- Go back over
- Pinta sister ship
- Type of Hyundai
- Hotel \_\_\_ Invalides, Paris
- Indian home
- Once \_\_\_, twice shy
- Barkin and Burstyn
- Salon job
- Biblical length
- Network: Abbr.
- Nice negatives?
- Jedi's foes
- Scale notes

Puzzle answers on Page 24

## AREA EVENTS

### FRIDAY, NOV. 5

Three-button bowl take-and-make kits are available through Nov. 30, while supplies last, at the Carlton Area, Cloquet and Moose Lake public libraries. The kit includes fabric, supplies and hand- or machine-sewing instructions.

Cromwell Area Community Club's hunters' turkey dinner, 4-7 p.m., Cromwell Park Pavilion. \$12/adult, \$5/ages 5-10, free for age 4 and under. Tickets at the door, proceeds toward Cromwell community improvement. All welcome.

### SATURDAY, NOV. 6

Mojakka Feed, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Beehive Community Club. Six miles west of Mahowa on County Road 4. Takeout available. Questions? Call Al at 218-380-0603.

Country Western show and dance 2-5 p.m. the first Saturday of the month, Solway Town Hall, corner of Hwy 2 and Munger Shaw Road. All welcome, freewill offering. 218-729-8139, 591-7721

### MONDAY, NOV. 8

Smear League meets 2-5 p.m. Mondays at the Cloquet VFW. \$5.

### TUESDAY, NOV. 9

Antique appraisals with Steve Wesely of Cresent Auctioneering, 1 p.m., Fires of 1918 Museum, Moose Lake. Suggested donation \$3 per person, 2-item limit, please. No charge for MLAHS members. Masks required. 218-485-4159, 485-4234

A Nesting Place meets virtually 1-2 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesdays for those in the third semester of pregnancy, and mothers and infants up to one year. To join the group: 218-499-6702, bgraden@cmhmn.org.

Dungeons & Dragons meets 3:30-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the Cloquet library.

### WEDNESDAY, NOV. 10

The Nov. 10 luncheon meeting of the Carlton County Trailblazers 55 and Older Group (formerly the Retired Men's Group) has been canceled. The next luncheon will be Dec. 8.

Wood City Quilters meets 6 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month at the Cloquet library. Guest speakers, community service projects. All quilters welcome.

### THURSDAY, NOV. 11

Ruby's Pantry visits the Cromwell Park Pavilion the second Thursday of the month. Registration begins 9:30 a.m., food distribution 10-11:30 a.m. \$20 per share. rubyspantry.org, 218-426-5156

### SATURDAY, NOV. 13

Senior dance with music by the Beaconnaires at the VFW. Potluck, \$8 cover. 879-5717, 218-210-7793



# Mission accomplished: Candy delivered

Jana Peterson  
news@PineKnotNews.com

With Covid-19 still circulating, this was the second year in a row that Sunnyside Health Care Center could not open its doors to trick-or-treaters on Halloween.

But Sunnyside residents and staff came up with a sweet idea to save Halloween. They filled bags of donated candy for the 366 students at nearby Churchill Elementary School Thursday. In fact, they collected so much candy from Sunnyside, Community Memorial Hospital and Raiter Clinic employees that they were also able to donate to three area preschools: Our Redeemer, Li'l Lumberjacks and Li'l Thunder.

Sunnyside director of life engagement Toni Hubbell said they went from 20 pounds of donated candy the first week to a grand total of 188.1 pounds by the end of the month-long collection period.

"I had people coming up and giving me cash or candy, including some family members for the residents," Hubbell said, adding that the most they'd collected in previous years was 120 pounds. "Everybody was really into it this year. And everybody understood why we couldn't do trick-or-treat, having unvaccinated kids around vulnerable adults would not have been an option."

She said resident Joe Burbel



Sunnyside Health Care Center resident Joe Burbel fills a bag with candy for delivery to school children in Cloquet. Without kids allowed to trick-or-treat at the facility, residents and workers there brought the candy to the kids this Halloween. *Contributed photos*

was the MVP of candy bags: he was knocking on her door every day the last week to make more candy bags.

"When we got back after delivering the candy last week, Joe came in and said, 'I need a hug,'" she said. "He told me, 'I just had

the best week, I had so much fun putting candy together. Anytime you want to take a roadtrip, I am in."



Sunnyside director of life engagement Toni Hubbell went with Dale Sorenson, in back seat, and Joe Burbel on a candy delivery run to Churchill Elementary school.



Dale Sorenson, in back seat, starred in a video each week showing Churchill kids how much the candy pile was growing at Sunnyside. Director of life engagement Toni Hubbell would send the video to his nieces, Stacy Peterson (left) and Shelly Pritchett (right), who both teach at the nearby school. Joe Burbel is in the front seat.

# CLASSIFIEDS

## EMPLOYMENT

### PARISH SECRETARY

Bethany/Bethlehem Parish is seeking applicants for the position of Parish Secretary. This position is 10 hours per week. Duties include preparing bulletins for weekly worship and special services, publishing the BeAttitudes newsletter once a month, keeping the church calendar updated, preparing the PowerPoint slides for Sunday worship, maintaining the church website, entering into Shepherd's Staff appropriate information, and maintaining files and handling church correspondence. Application forms are available and can be dropped off at the church office: Bethany Lutheran Church, 5660 Highway 210, Cromwell MN 55726. 218-644-3640. Deadline for applications: 12 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2021

## REAL ESTATE

### HOME FOR SALE BY OWNER

Split-entry 4BD 2BA. Newly remodeled, new metal roof, 2-car attached garage, beautifully landscaped front & back yards, large deck, new Trane central air. 214 Maple Ave, Carlton. Call 218-460-8331 for appt.

### COUNTRY LAND

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## SPORTING GOODS

### EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

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## WANTED

### FIREARMS

.22 pistol. Call 218-591-9349

### GAS ENGINES

All junk cars, trucks, motorcycles, anything with a gas engine. 218-591-9349

## SPORTING GOODS

### HUNTING SUIT

One-piece XL orange hunting suit, excellent condition, \$35. 218-879-4070

## FREE

### NEWSPAPERS

Old newspapers for papier-mache and other crafts, packing or reading material, starting campfires and more. Swing by the PKN office at 122 Ave. C, Cloquet. 878-9332

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(circle the category under which your ad should appear)

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|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
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| Card of Thanks      | Help Wanted              | Pets            |
| Craft Sales         | Household                | Real Estate     |
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| Day Care            | Lawn & Garden            | Services        |
| Electronics         | Livestock                | Sporting Goods  |
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One word per line. Please use punctuation. We are not responsible for errors due to illegible copy or missing punctuation. Punctuation does not count as a word, phone numbers are one word.

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# PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF TIME CHANGE FOR THE NOVEMBER 22, 2021, ADJOURNED CARLTON COUNTY BOARD MEETING**  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Carlton County Board of Commissioners will meet in an adjourned session beginning at 3:30 p.m. on Nov. 22, 2021. This meeting will be held at the Carlton County Transportation Building. (This is a change in time for the regularly scheduled November 22, 2021 meeting.)  
 BY ORDER OF THE CARLTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
 PKN Nov. 5, 2021

**NOTICE OF COUNTY HRA PUBLIC HEARING**  
 Notice is hereby given that the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of Carlton, Carlton County, Minnesota, (the "HRA") will conduct a public hearing in the Community Room of Woodland Pines, 201 Spruce Ave., Carlton, on Thursday, Dec. 16, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. to obtain comments on its proposed 5-year plan, review revisions to the 2021 CFP and hear comments on the 2021 CFP and expenditures of capital funds.  
 Social distancing requirements will be followed. All individuals must wear masks.  
 PKN Nov. 5, 2021

**STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF CARLTON DISTRICT COURT SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT FILE NO.: 09-PR-21-1780**  
 In Re: Estate of Gordon William Angell Jr.  
 aka Gordon W. Angell Jr., Decedent.  
 NOTICE OF AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR DETERMINATION OF DESCENT  
 Denise Follett has filed a Petition for Determination of Descent. It is Ordered that on December 9, 2021, at 8:40 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at Carlton, Minnesota, on the petition.  
 The petition represents that the decedent died more than three (3) years ago leaving property in Minnesota. The petition requests the Court determine the descent of such property and assign the

property to the persons entitled. If you have an objection to this case, please contact Court Administration at (218)221-7560 option #8 for further instructions, as these hearings are currently held remotely due to the pandemic. Any objections to the petition must be raised at the hearing or filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If the petition is proper and no objections are filed or raised, the petition will be granted.  
 Notice shall be given by publishing this Notice and Order as provided by law and by mailing a copy of this Notice and Order to each interested person by United States mail at least 14 days before the time set for the hearing.  
 BY THE COURT  
 Rebekka Stumme  
 Judge of District Court  
 Dated: October 20, 2021  
 Amy Turnquist  
 Court Administrator  
 Chelsea Opdahl, Deputy  
 RADOSEVICH LAW OFFICE  
 Peter L. Radosevich (027236X)  
 PO Box 384  
 Esko, Minnesota 55733  
 (218) 879-0008  
 pete@radosevichlaw.com  
 PKN Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 2021

**STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF CARLTON SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION COURT FILE NO.: 09-PR-21-1851**  
 Estate of Laurie Ann Sheldon, a/k/a Laurie A. Sheldon, a/k/a Laurie Sheldon, Decedent.  
 NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP, APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
 It is Ordered and Notice is given that on December 9, 2021, at 8:50 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 301 Walnut Avenue, Carlton, Minnesota, 55718 for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent and for the appointment of Richard L. Sheldon, whose address is 1515 Selmsler Avenue, Cloquet, Minnesota 55720 as Personal

Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an unsupervised administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate, including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate. Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.  
 If you have an objection to this case, please contact Court Administration at (218) 221-7560 option #8 for further instructions, as these hearings are currently held remotely due to the pandemic.  
 Dated: October 26, 2021  
 BY THE COURT  
 Rebekka Stumme  
 Judge of District Court  
 Amy Turnquist  
 Court Administrator  
 Attorney for Petitioner  
 Sarah B. Helwig (0323834)  
 Rudy, Gassert, Yetka, Pritchett & Helwig  
 A Fryberger Law Firm Practice Group  
 813 Cloquet Avenue  
 Cloquet, MN 55720  
 (218) 725-6869 (direct)  
 shelwig@fryberger.com  
 PKN Nov. 5, 12, 2021

gutter, ADA-compliant pedestrian ramps, sidewalk and shared-use path, roundabout, and bituminous surfacing. The Proposal and Specifications and the Plans are available at the Department's OneOffice website at https://oneoffice.co.carlton.mn.us/oneoffice. After an acceptable audit of the bids received, a recommendation for award to the lowest responsible bidder will be presented to the Carlton County Board of Commissioners at the County Board Meeting, 1630 County Road 61, Carlton MN, on November 22, 2021, 4:00 p.m. CST.  
 PKN Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, 2021

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS CARLTON COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT**  
 The Carlton County Transportation Department will receive bids for the following project(s): SAP 009-603-040. The bids must be submitted electronically to bidVAULT at https://bidvault.mn.uccs.com before November 22, 2021, 10:30 a.m. CST. The majority of the work on this project involves Full Depth Reclamation and bituminous surfacing. The Proposal and Specifications and the Plans are available at the Department's OneOffice website at https://oneoffice.co.carlton.mn.us/oneoffice. After an acceptable audit of the bids received, a recommendation for award to the lowest responsible bidder will be presented to the Carlton County Board of Commissioners at the County Board Meeting, 1630 County Road 61, Carlton MN, on November 22, 2021, 4:00 p.m. CST.  
 PKN Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, 2021

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**IMPORTANT PROPERTY TAX HOMESTEAD NOTICE**

This will affect your 2022 property taxes and eligibility for Property Tax Refund.

**Have you purchased or moved into a property in the past year?**  
 Contact your county assessor to file a homestead application if you or a qualifying relative occupy the property as a homestead on or before December 31, 2021.

**What is a qualifying relative?**  
 For unoccupied agricultural property, a qualifying relative includes the child, grandchild, sibling, or parent of the owner or owner's spouse.

For occupied agricultural or residential property, a qualifying relative also includes the owner's uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece.

After the initial application has been received, relative homesteads are verified annually.

**When do I apply?**  
 You must apply on or before December 31, 2021.

Once homestead is granted, annual applications are not necessary unless they are requested by the county assessor.

Contact the assessor by December 31, 2021 if the use of the property you own or occupy as a qualifying relative has changed during the past year.

If you sell, move, or for any reason no longer qualify for the homestead classification, you are required to notify the county assessor within 30 days of the change in homestead status.

**In order to qualify for homestead, you must own and occupy by December 31, 2021 and your homestead application must be received/postmarked by December 31, 2021.**

Carlton County Assessor's Office (218)384-9142

# PUZZLE ANSWERS

Answers to Sudoku, Crossword on Page 21

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 5 |
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## CROSS COUNTRY SECTIONS



When the dust cleared in the Section 7AA boys race, Cloquet held a spot to compete at the state meet this week. Photos by Jana Peterson / Pine Knot News

# Cloquet boys going to fifth straight State meet

Jana Peterson  
sports@pineknotnews.com

If not for the pandemic, this would be the sixth consecutive year the Cloquet boys cross country team competed in the Class AA state meet. Last year the state meet was canceled due to Covid-19 restrictions, so this trip will be the Lumberjacks' fifth.

"The key to the boys team's success is that they have gone as a team now for four years in a row and they make it their goal each season to get back to the state meet," said Cloquet head coach Chandra Allen.

It was certainly a team effort. Cloquet had three boys finish in the top 10 at Thursday's Section 7AA meet, held at the

Cloquet Country Club. Junior Miles Fischer took third place in 16:41.80; senior Jake Mertz placed fourth in 17:07:40 and senior Sam Buytaert placed eighth in 17:16.30. Other top boys Lumberjacks runners included senior Cale Prosen in 21st (18:16.90), sophomore Calvin Snesrud in 27th (18:29.60), junior Ben Sanders in 40th (18:56.10) and senior Alex Zegan in 41st (18:59.10).

It was good enough to earn Cloquet a solid second-place finish as a team, with a total of 63 points compared to 47 for first-place winner Rock Ridge and 93 for third-place Proctor.

Although all the girls who finished Thursday set personal records for the season, Cloquet sophomore Elise Sertich was the

only girl to qualify for state. Sertich took ninth place in the girls 7AA race, running the 5K course in 20:28.90.

The gentle rain that started in the middle of the boys race made things a little slippery Thursday, but overall conditions were good, the top three runners said, with the chilly temperatures making for comfortable running. "A lot of sharp corners so we had to take those wide," Fischer said.

The boys had four seniors on the boys section team, so they have experience at the state level, despite not getting to compete last year.

"One more go," Buytaert said.

Allen said it was nice to get back to business as usual after last year's pandemic restrictions

limited meets by size, at three teams each, and location — staying within the region.

"We did add a new meet this year at Grand Rapids," Allen said. "It was a fast course and a turning point for our girls and boys in racing. It was nice to explore some other courses, but nothing compares to competing at some of the larger meets like Milaca and competing with all the section teams at once."

This is the first year that Minnesota has three classes for cross country. Cloquet continued in Class AA, but some of the larger schools in their section moved into Class AAA. The boys didn't think it made a big difference Thursday, except there were fewer kids to race against.

"But we usually do better in bigger races, because there will be more people between our guys and their guys, so it gives them (the other teams) more points," Mertz said.

Coach Allen said the benefit of three classes is more about broadening the field.

"Having three classes doesn't lessen the competition at State," she said. "It allows more teams and individuals that wouldn't normally get a chance to compete at the state level to get that chance."

The runners return to the grounds of St. Olaf College in Northfield to test their mettle against the best runners in the state once again.

# Bevy of 7A county runners make the State meet cut

Jana Peterson  
sports@pineknotnews.com

The ending of the Section 7A races Thursday were markedly different: Cromwell junior Noah Foster finished alone and unruffled — more than 23 seconds ahead of the second-place runner — while Panthers freshman Addison Burckhardt sprinted to beat her nearest competitor to the finish line.

"I got like 20 seconds faster in this race," said Burckhardt, who finished in 19:54.80. "At the end, that girl (Ely seventh-grader Molly Brophy) was about to pass me and I just thought, I really want to win."

Thursday was a banner day for many runners in Carlton County and nearby South Ridge. The Carlton/Wrenshall girls team took

## Celebrate the runners

On **Page 4** of today's issue, look for more photos of runners headed to state.

first place in the girls meet with 75 points, followed by South Ridge with 91. The Esko boys team came in second with 70 points, after Greenway High School with 48.

The top two teams and the next six athletes qualify to race at state.

For Cromwell-Wright, that means first-place Foster will be joined on his trip back to the state meet by teammate Emaleigh Olesiak, who placed ninth in the girls race.

"Two years these two went to state," said an "elated" Cromwell-Wright

head coach Pete Koenig, "but with Covid last year things were a little messed up." Olesiak had struggled with injuries both this season and last, he said, but decided she was going to keep running this year. On Thursday she "blew it out of the water," Koenig said. "We kind of had a plan and she worked the plan perfectly," he said.

Foster did his work "on the front end," the Cardinals coach said, estimating his top runner probably clocked about 300 miles this summer. "He trains hard to get himself to a good place."

Addison Burckhardt led the Panthers girls team, which took second place Thursday and qualified as a team to race in the state meet Saturday at St. Olaf College in Northfield. Her twin brother, Alex

Burckhardt, also qualified for the state meet as an individual after taking 10th place in the boys 7AA meet.

Also qualifying as individual runners were Wrenshall's Jack Riley (sixth), and Rebels runners Joseph Mikrot (eighth) and Shawn Bailey (ninth). Esko's Grace Hrabik also qualified for state, taking fifth place.

The Carlton/Wrenshall girls team thought they had a shot at winning, said Raptors coach Erik Holter. He was happy, especially since it's only the fourth year for the combined Carlton/Wrenshall program, which also boasts a strong contingent of homeschool students.

"Each year we have been improving drastically, with this year being our best," Holter said. "This team has truly found itself as

a family, even though we are made up of student athletes from two separate districts. Even for the first year, within a week they were a team and forming solid friendships with each other."

Although the Raptors had only one girl finish in the top 10 Thursday — seventh-grader Brielle Simula in eighth place (20:36.90) — they had five in the top 25, including Sarah Cid (14th), Ruth Sandstrom (15th), Abby Cid (18th) and Emma Cid (25th).

It's not the first time a combined Carlton/Wrenshall team has made it to state, according to Facebook. Amy Utech posted congratulations to the team on the Pine Knot News Facebook page, with a note saying the first Carlton/Wrenshall girls team went to state in 2000. "You'd

better beat our placement of eighth at state!" Utech wrote.

The Raptors' sole statebound boys runner, sophomore Jack Riley, was happy with his sixth-place finish. "I couldn't have gone faster," he said.

Also a track runner, Riley said he prefers cross country for its longer distance and the aesthetics. "Each meet is different, and the courses are pretty, whereas track it's all the same really. The conditions were perfect today too."

South Ridge coach Jeremy Polson was thrilled with Thursday's results.

"Our top five girls all had personal bests, so I couldn't be more excited and I couldn't expect any more than that. "Foster is looking for more." "I want to win."



The Section 7A girls race had many successes for Carlton County runners. For more photos from the day, go online at PineKnotNews.com.

**FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS**

# Bombers, Rebels prevail; season ends for 'Jacks

**Kerry Rodd**  
sports@pineknotnews.com

Sectional football play entered its midpoint last Saturday as all the remaining local football teams were in action. Four local teams will be moving on to sectional championship games, while two other teams were eliminated.

South Ridge, Barnum, Moose Lake/Willow River and Esko all moved on.

**Section 7A**

The Barnum Bombers came into their sectional game against North Woods as the No. 3 seed to the Grizzlies No. 2, and knowing the Grizzlies defeated the Bombers 28-14 Sept. 24. On Saturday, the Bombers reversed their fortunes by coming back in the second half and notching a 48-26 win to move into the championship game.

"We are extremely proud of this team. After falling behind 26-12, several players stepped up and made big-time plays to battle back in the second half," said head coach Rob Minkkinen. "The team played fast and physically, with confidence, and that is what we ask of them. It was a great team win."

The Grizzlies feature star running back T.J. Chiabotti along with some big and physical linemen, but the Bombers withstood the early challenge and bounced

back for an impressive road win.

"We are very pleased with the performance our team had," Minkkinen said. "The way we came out in the second half both offensively and defensively is something they should be proud of. But there are definitely little things that we want to clean up heading into Friday's matchup with Deer River."

Sophomore quarterback Hayden Charboneau passed for 257 yards and six touchdowns, and had six carries for 42 rushing yards. Wideout J.J. Stevens caught seven passes for 114 yards and three scores, while Joe Peterson added six catches for 72 yards and a touchdown. Max Moors added 11 carries good for 102 yards rushing and two touchdowns, while Willie Richardson chipped in with eight carries — good for 96 yards and a touchdown.

"A ton of credit needs to go to our offensive lineman who matched North Woods' physicality up-front," said Minkkinen.

Barnum will play Deer River for the Section 7A championship at 7 p.m. Friday night in Proctor. The Bombers lost to Deer River 36-20 on Oct. 8.

**Section 7AA**

All season long the Moose Lake/Willow River football team has manhandled opponents and tossed them to the wayside.

Nothing changed on Saturday when the Rebels piled up 470 yards' worth of offense as they pounded International Falls 63-26 in Willow River for the semifinal win.

"International Falls played a good game and pushed our kids," said Rebels coach Dave Louzek. "We made some mistakes defensively that our players will be able to see on lowlights."

On offense, quarterback Sam Neumann was 3 for 4 passing, good for 71 yards and a pair of touchdowns. Junior running back Jackson Thompson had five carries good for 139 yards and three rushing touchdowns and one reception for a touchdown. Senior running back Logan Orvedahl added eight carries for 127 rushing yards and two rushing touchdowns.

Defensively, the Rebels were also stellar as they recorded four interceptions, including one returned for a touchdown by sophomore Kaden Robbins. The defense also finished with five sacks, led by Duane Broughton with two of those sacks.

The win improved the Rebels record to 7-0 in a season where they have outscored their opponents 335 to 53 over seven games. The Rebels average nearly 48 points a game while giving up just seven points per game.

ML/WR were facing Mesabi

East for the Section 7AA title at 6 p.m. Thursday in Esko, a team the Rebels beat 64-0 this season.

**Section 7AAAA**

After opening sectional play with a home win over Duluth Denfeld, the No. 4 seeded Lumberjacks hit the road Saturday night to play the No. 1 seeded North Branch Vikings. Just 10 days before, the Vikings had throttled Cloquet 49-12.

At halftime of Saturday's game, the Lumberjacks were down just 14-7, but the Vikings ratcheted up play in the second half and rolled away to a 34-13 win.

After stalling out on their first drive of the game, the 'Jacks elected to punt — only to have their punt blocked. That eventually led to the first score of the game for North Branch.

"We did some good things defensively in the first half, but the offense struggled up-front with their defensive line," said Cloquet head coach Tom Lenarz. "Special teams mistakes cost us the first touchdown and we just didn't move the ball consistently. Penalties were a problem all year and that proved to be an issue in the first half again."

Going into the game, the Lumberjacks coaching staff knew they had to put points up against North Branch and stop its potent running games.

"We had chances in the second

half, and we were able to move the ball at times, but we just couldn't finish drives," said Lenarz. "Eventually they were able to bust a couple big plays open on us. North Branch is a good football team, and we knew coming in we would have to score three or four touchdowns to win the game. We just didn't get it done. They took away our interior run game and forced us to pass more and we just were not able to complete those passes with as much regularity as we needed to score. It's hard to throw the ball a lot in high school football."

The Lumberjacks finished the season with a 5-5 record and had to overcome a number of injuries to key players that slowed the team's momentum.

"I was proud of our effort this season. We seemed to be playing with a different starting lineup every week because we just couldn't keep everyone healthy," Lenarz said. "We understand that is part of the game and the kids didn't make excuses. They just lined up and played as hard as they could. I really enjoyed this group of kids, and we will miss the seniors next year."

Lenarz said there is a lot of talent returning as well.

"As long as the guys work hard to improve over the next year, I feel great about where we are as a program," he said.

# South Ridge edges Cromwell-Wright

**Kerry Rodd**  
sports@pineknotnews.com

South Ridge and Cromwell-Wright met Saturday night in a Section 5 nine-man semifinal with the Panthers barely hanging on for a 26-24 win.

"It was a wild game," said Panthers coach Brent Johnson. "It came right down to the end and we were able to hang in there and get a win."

Things looked good for the Panthers right from the opening kickoff when Tony Cummins took the kick 90 yards for a score, making it 6-0 after the two-point conversion run was stuffed by the Cardinals.

"We played poorly in the first half," said Cromwell-Wright head coach Jeff Gronner. "We gave up too many big plays and had a couple turnovers, and those are the two things we talked about not allowing. South Ridge is bigger and

stronger than us, but we just didn't perform well in the first half."

Cummins' return was just the start of the wild series of events in this game. The Cardinals responded with an Andres Vallejo 5-yard touchdown run on Cromwell's first drive to tie the game at 6-6 when the two-point conversion run was stopped by the Panthers. Before the first quarter ended, South Ridge regained the lead on a Mason Bennett 24-yard touchdown scamper, but, again, the two-point conversion try failed. The score was now 12-6 for the Panthers after one quarter. "In the first half we moved the ball well on offense and we were blocking well," Johnson said.

The second quarter saw the Panthers explode for two more touchdowns. The first score was by Zack Wells on a 23-yard touchdown jaunt, giving

the Panthers an 18-6 lead after yet another failed two-point conversion run. South Ridge added another second-quarter touchdown when Trevor Miller ripped off an 84-yard touchdown run and Wells actually scored on the two-point conversion for a 26-6 lead at halftime for the Panthers.

"I told the boys at halftime we can't afford to let up," Johnson said.

The Cards had to overcome an injury to starting quarterback Dylan Nyberg in the second half.

"Nyberg played the first half, but he was only about 75-percent coming into the game and he was dealing with a knee issue," said coach Gronner. "He gutted it out and tried to help us, but we shut him down at halftime. We went back to our 'wildcat' offense without a quarterback in the second half. And Andres Vallejo and Zevvus Smith

took most of the snaps."

The second half was all Cromwell-Wright. In the third quarter Smith pounded the ball into the end zone on a 3-yard touchdown run to make the score 26-12 after a conversion pass failed. The Cards added another third-quarter touchdown when Vallejo ripped off an impressive 49-yard run, making it a 26-18 game entering the fourth quarter.

"We controlled the second half on both sides of the ball," said Gronner.

In the fourth quarter, Vallejo added another amazing run, a 51-yard touchdown dash that cut the lead to 26-24.

South Ridge attempted to run out the clock, but the Cards managed to get a stop on defense, which allowed them one last chance to win the game.

"We ended up stopping South Ridge on fourth down to get the ball back



South Ridge's Beau Thibault escapes a tackle by Cromwell's Dylan Nyberg during Saturday's Section 5 9-man semifinal game. *Dave Harwig / Pine Knot News*

with just over a minute to go with no timeouts," Gronner said. "We gained enough yards to attempt a 29-yard field goal with

13 seconds left, but it was blocked."

The Cards moved on to the championship game this week against Ogilvie.

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## FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

# Eskomos advance with flying colors

Kerry Rodd  
sports@pineknotnews.com

The Esko football team is loaded with speed, talent, and power. All three of those elements were on display Saturday as the Eskomos blasted their way to a 43-14 win over Rock Ridge in Esko in the Section 7AAA semifinals.

"We did what we needed to do," said Esko coach Scott Arntson. "We also worked on what we needed to work on and continue to try and improve each week."

The first quarter had one explosive play when quarterback Ty Christensen hit Mason Perich for a 40-yard touchdown pass, giving Esko a 6-0 lead after the missed extra point.

Esko tacked on two more touchdowns in the second quarter as they pulled away to a 21-0 halftime lead. The first score was a Braden Lowe 3-yard touchdown run and the second was a 37-yard touchdown dash by Mason Perich. The Eskomos also added a two-point conversion run on Lowe's score and a Wyatt Stankiewicz extra point kick on the touchdown by Perich.

"We also got inside the 5-yard line two other times

in the first half and didn't score," recalled Arntson. "In the second half we focused on trying to clean up some of our offensive mistakes."

Cole Engen ignited the crowd when he intercepted a pass and returned it 10 yards for another score, making it 28-0 after the extra point kick by Stankiewicz.

Rock Ridge answered quickly, scoring on a 55-yard run, but Esko struck equally fast before the third quarter ended when Nolan Witt raced 46 yards to pay dirt. The Eskomos went back up 36-6 after a two-point conversion run.

Early in the fourth quarter, Rock Ridge notched its second score of the game on a 1-yard touchdown run, but Esko responded in kind when Joey Antonutti slipped in from a yard out and Stankiewicz booted the extra point, pushing the lead to 43-14.

"We had six different people score for us," said Arntson. "The main thing we worked on was running our base offense better and continuing to improve."

The win put the Eskomos into the Section 7AAA championship game Thursday against Aitkin, a team that Esko slipped by 14-12



Esko's Makoi Perich leaps over Rock Ridge defender Jake Burress as the Eskomos walloped the Wolverines Saturday in Esko, 43-14. Esko advanced to the section championship. Dan Saletel/Pine Knot Sports

on Oct. 14.

"It will be a good test for us," said Arntson. "They are strong and they are very physical at the point of attack. They brought it

to us in the first game. They come right at you, and they don't trick you, they basically smash you and we need to be ready for that."

A big key for Esko is

their speed and athleticism. They had to take advantage of that against the Gobblers at UMD's Malosky Stadium.

"It is going to be a tough

game with two evenly matched teams," Arntson said. "We will need to get our athletes in space and let them use their ability and just go out and play."

## VOLLEYBALL PLAYOFFS

## It's crunch time on court

Kerry Rodd  
sports@pineknotnews.com

The Section 7 girls volleyball playoffs kicked off in earnest last week. Opening games in tournament action were played on Wednesday with second-round games played on Friday.

### Section 7A

Barnum entered the tournament as the No. 1 seed in Subsection 1 in Section 7A and they have not dropped a set in two matches. Last Wednesday the Bombers opened tournament play by playing neighboring Wrenshall. The Wrens had entered the tournament seeded No. 8 and on Monday opened play by beating No. 9 Silver Bay. But on Wednesday, the Bombers easily handled the Wrens to the tune of 3-0 and continued that dominance Friday by beating No. 5 Cromwell-Wright 3-0. Cromwell-Wright had knocked off No. 4 seeded Cook County 3-2 to advance to the game vs. Barnum.

The other two local teams in Section 7A were South Ridge and Carlton.

The Panthers came into the tournament as the No. 3 seed and the Bulldogs were the No. 6 seed. The two teams met Wednesday in Culver with the Panthers winning 3-0 as the Bulldogs. The Panthers moved on to second round action Friday and disposed of No. 2 Floodwood in Floodwood 3-2.

The four remaining teams in the tournament battled in the semifinals in Hibbing Wednesday. Barnum lost 3-1 to Northeast Range and South Ridge defeated Ely 3-2. The Section 7A championship game is set for 4 p.m. Saturday in Hibbing as the South Ridge takes on Northeast Range.

### Section 7AA

Opening round play last Wednesday in 7AA saw Subsection 1 top seed Proctor down No. 8 Two Harbors 3-0. No. 2 Rush City eliminated No. 7 Moose Lake/Willow River. Esko, the No. 3 seed, beat No. 6 Hinckley-Finlayson 3-0 in Esko.

Esko, the lone local 7AA team left in the tournament, bowed out on Friday when they were beaten by Rush City 3-2. Rush City

was the No. 2 Subsection 2 seed.

### Section 7AAA

The Cloquet Lumberjacks are the lone Pine Knot area team playing in Section 7AAA. The Lumberjacks are experiencing one of the best seasons in school history with a record of 21-6. Cloquet, the No. 2 seed, opened play at home Friday against No. 7 Duluth Denfeld with the Lumberjacks winning handily 3-0. The win over Denfeld put the Lumberjacks in the semifinals against No. 3 Hermantown Wednesday. The 'Jacks pounded out a 3-1 win. Hermantown made the semifinal with a 3-0 victory over No. 6 seed Hibbing.

Cloquet defeated Hermantown just two weeks ago in the last game of the regular season, which allowed Cloquet to capture the Lake Superior Conference title.

Cloquet will face No. 1 Grand Rapids or No. 4 seed North Branch. The 7AAA championship game is set for 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 6, at Cloquet Middle School.



Cromwell-Wright's Andrea Pocerich tries to tip a ball past Barnum's Reese Miletich as the Cardinals and Bombers faced off in the section 7A playoffs Friday night. Barnum got a sweep and advanced to the next round. Dan Saletel / Pine Knot Sports

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## STATE SOCCER TOURNAMENT

# From here on out, it's an inside job

## Cloquet girls reach semis in Minneapolis

Dwight Cadwell  
sports@pineknotnews.com

The Lumberjacks were hoping for the No. 5 seed in the Minnesota Class AA state tournament, knowing they would have a rematch with St. Francis, which defeated Cloquet in the first match of the season. They got their wish, and ultimately defeated the Saints by a score of 1-0 last Wednesday night at Irondale High School.

"We knew this was a team that we could defeat heading into the state tournament," said head coach Dustin Randall. "They whooped up on us in the first game of the season. We deserved to lose that one, so it was awesome to get the win in the state tournament."

The Lumberjacks have now won 11 contests in a row, allowing only three goals in those 11 consecutive victories. Last week, Cloquet again focused on defense, applying pressure on the Saints and trying to capitalize when possible. They did a good job shutting down the Saints offense as the defenders for Cloquet-Carlton continued to play well, just like they have all season long.

"The group we have back there is amazing; they shut down the other team's top one or two players, which makes it hard for them to attack in our end," Randall said. "We knew they were going to have a hard time scoring goals. When Katie got that goal for us, I said to the girls, 'That could be the game winner.'"

Katie Turner scored what would be the game's only goal at the 15-minute mark of the first half after defender Caley Kruse raced up the sideline and crossed a perfect ball right to the penalty kick mark. Turner rocketed a shot past Saints goalie Emma Knack.

As the game advanced, Cloquet continued to frustrate the Saints by bottling up any rush they tried to move forward, and by tying up the Saints. If they did move forward, the 'Jacks were on the ball quickly and forcing it out of play.

The first half ended with the Lumberjacks controlling most of the play and taking a 1-0 lead into the break. The second half again was much like the first: Cloquet continued to frustrate St. Francis. They did have a few scoring chances but goalkeeper Katelyn Olson was able to



Cloquet's Katie Turner, far right, celebrates her goal in the first half last Wednesday in the first round of the state tournament against St. Francis at Irondale High School. It turned out to be the game winner as Cloquet advanced to this week's semifinal with a 1-0 win. The Lumberjacks were scheduled to face Benilde-St. Margaret's on Thursday afternoon. Photos by Dave Hartwig / Pine Knot News

thwart any possibilities for St. Francis.

Randall said the Lumberjacks are confident.

"The Soccer Hub had a big story about St. Francis coming into the state quarterfinals unbeaten. They had defenders who were forced to play as midfielders or forwards, but they expected a great tournament run, not even considering us and the possibility we could win," Randall said. "So often we tend to get overlooked by the metro area."

"We didn't just want to get to The Bank, we want to finish it all at The Bank. Hopefully we play like we have and I will honestly say I like our chances." Randall added. "The community, the fans, school, and just about everyone I run into has been so positive. It's been great, that's the good [thing] about having a split-up state tournament."

In the win over St. Francis, Cloquet's Katelyn Olson made seven saves, while Knack had nine.

Cloquet moved on to the state semifinals where they were set to face the top-seeded Benilde-St. Margaret's team at 12:30 p.m. Thursday at U.S. Bank Stadium. The second Class

AA semifinal will follow that game, between No. 2 seed Holy Angels Academy and No. 3 Mahtomedi.

On Wednesday, Cloquet senior Katie Turner, co-captain with Kruse and Sadie Senich, said the players were excited to play at U.S. Bank Stadium.

"It's something none of us have ever experienced and we know it will be an experience we never forget, no matter the score of the game," Turner said.

The winners of the state semifinals will play for the Class AA championship at 1 p.m. Saturday at the stadium. Losers of Thursday's semifinals will meet in the third-place games at 11 a.m. Friday at the West St. Paul Civic Center.

This is the third year in a row for the Lumberjacks girls soccer team to win its section, and their second trip to state in three years, because there was no state meet last year due to the pandemic. It's the first time the Lumberjacks girls soccer team has advanced to the state semifinals since 2009, when the game was played in the Metrodome. That makes this trip to The Bank the first for any Lumberjacks soccer team.



Cloquet defenders Sadie Senich, left, and Olivia Jameson make a stop on St. Francis' Lauren Buzzell during Wednesday night's Class AA quarterfinal soccer match.

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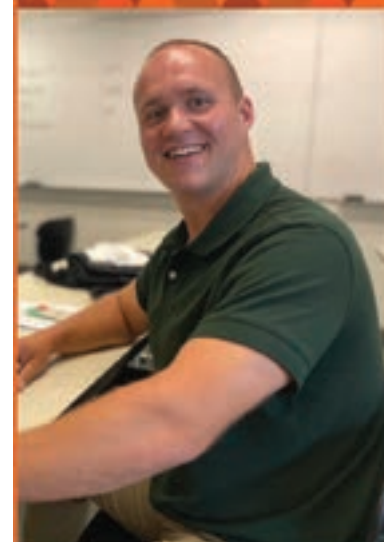
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